United Nations S/2018/1009

Security Council

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14 November 2018
English
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Identical letters dated 10 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I should like to convey to you the following:

The illegitimate international coalition led by the United States of America has committed another heinous crime against dozens of Syrian civilians. On the evening of 9 November 2018, coalition aircraft deliberately targeted residential neighbourhoods in the town of Hajin, which lies some 110 km east of Dayr al-Zawr city, killing 26 civilians, mostly women and children, in their homes near the town's Khalid Bin al-Walid mosque and wounding dozens of other innocent civilians. Sources have confirmed that the number of dead is expected to rise due to continuing raids and the difficulty of removing the wounded, some of whom are in critical condition, from the rubble. Several days earlier, forces of the so-called coalition had committed other crimes in that same region, resulting in six innocent civilian casualties. While the United States killing machine and its allies repeatedly commit these cold-blooded crimes, the Security Council remains frighteningly silent regarding such massacres and has done nothing to put an end to them.

In previous letters, the most recent of which is the identical letters dated 30 October 2018 (S/2018/972), the Syrian Arab Republic noted that the criminal coalition's aggressions and barbaric attacks against innocent civilians have taken on a systematic, deliberate and sustained character, and that the coalition has used various types of internationally prohibited weapons that have indiscriminate effects or are capable of causing mass destruction, such as white phosphorus bombs. It has asked the Security Council to act immediately to halt those crimes and prevent their recurrence.

Yesterday's crime in Hajin and the massacres that preceded it once again show how little regard the States of the so-called coalition have for the lives of innocent civilians, international law and international humanitarian law. They expose the hypocrisy and dishonesty of these States when they talk about the need to uphold the Charter of the United Nations, human rights instruments and the peremptory norms of humanitarian law when conducting military operations, which the United States claims are directed against terrorists but whose victims, as conclusive evidence has shown every time, are Syrian civilians. Meanwhile, in broad daylight, fully armed terrorist groups deploy mere kilometres away from the positions held by American occupation forces and their proxies east of the Euphrates River and in the Tanf area, where, according to several reliable international sources, the American army is

providing every type of support and assistance to the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant terrorist organization.

This heinous crime once again gives the lie to the spurious claims of the United States that it is countering terrorism and demonstrates that its goal is to kill the greatest possible number of Syrians and cause more damage to infrastructure that was built at great cost by the Syrian State over the past years. This has all taken place as the illegal and immoral coalition continues to target innocent civilians and commit war crimes and crimes against humanity in pursuit of an agenda that, as the Syrian people clearly understand, is aimed at undermining the future and sovereignty of the Syrian Arab Republic and its territorial unity and integrity, and obstructing any future solution to the crisis, in blatant violation of all Security Council resolutions on the matter.

The Syrian Arab Republic once again calls upon the Security Council to fulfil its responsibility by taking earnest and immediate action to prevent such attacks and massacres. The Council must take the necessary steps to create an independent and impartial international mechanism to investigate and condemn those crimes and punish the perpetrators. It must ensure that the States of the so-called coalition comply with the Charter of the United Nations, in which crimes of aggression, interference in the internal affairs of States and undermining the territorial integrity of Member States are rejected.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations S/2018/1010

Security Council

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13 November 2018

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United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland: draft resolution

The Security Council,

Recalling all its previous resolutions and statements of its President on the situation in Somalia and Eritrea, in particular resolutions 733 (1992), 1844 (2008), 1907 (2009), 2023 (2011), 2036 (2012), 2093 (2013), 2111 (2013), 2124 (2013), 2125 (2013), 2142 (2014), 2182 (2014), 2244 (2015), 2317 (2016) and 2385 (2017),

Taking note of the final reports of the Somalia and Eritrea Monitoring Group (the SEMG) on Somalia (S/2018/1002) and Eritrea (S/2018/1003) and their conclusions on the situations in Somalia and Eritrea,

Reaffirming its respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence and unity of Somalia, Djibouti and Eritrea, and underscoring the importance of working to prevent destabilising effects of regional crises and disputes from spilling over into Somalia,

Condemning Al-Shabaab attacks in Somalia and beyond, *expressing concern* that Al-Shabaab continues to pose a serious threat to the peace and stability of Somalia and the region, and *further expressing concern* at the presence of affiliates linked to Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as Da'esh) and the security implications of the situation in Yemen for Somalia,

Reaffirming the need to combat by all means, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and international law, including applicable international human rights law, international refugee law, and international humanitarian law, threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts,

Underlining its support for the efforts of the Somali authorities to deliver stability and security in Somalia and to reduce the threats to peace and security posed by Al-Shabaab and affiliates linked to ISIL (also known as Da'esh),

Condemning any flows of weapons and ammunition supplies to and through Somalia in violation of the arms embargo on Somalia, including when they result in supplies to Al-Shabaab and affiliates linked to ISIL (also known as Da'esh) and when they undermine the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Somalia, as a serious threat to peace and stability in the region, and *expressing concern* at reports of increased illegal flows of weapons and ammunition supplies from Yemen to Somalia,

Welcoming the cooperation between the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS), the Federal Member States (FMSs), and the SEMG, and *underlining* the importance of these relationships improving further and strengthening in the future,

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Welcoming the development of a conditions-based transition plan with clear target dates for the progressive transfer of security responsibilities from the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) to the Somali security institutions and forces, *calling for* its swift and coordinated implementation with full participation from all stakeholders, and *recalling* the critical importance of accelerating the implementation of the National Security Architecture agreement between the FGS and the FMSs, including decisions to define the composition and roles of Somalia's security forces and to integrate and provide federal support to regional forces, in order to provide the foundation for a successful transition to Somali-led security,

Taking note of the efforts of the FGS to improve its notifications to the Committee pursuant to resolutions 751 (1992) and 1907 (2009) concerning Somalia and Eritrea ("the Committee"), *urging* further progress in this regard, and *recalling* that improved arms and ammunition management in Somalia is a fundamental component of greater peace and stability for the region,

Commending the efforts of the FGS to restore key economic and financial institutions, increase domestic revenue and implement financial governance and structural reforms, *welcoming* the continued progress on building a track record of reforms under the International Monetary Fund Staff-Monitored Programme, together with progress on the anti-corruption bill, and *highlighting* the importance of continual progress in these areas,

Welcoming the FGS's efforts to implement the Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Act (2015) and the National Communications Act (2017), *underlining* the importance of compliance with the counter-terrorism and national security provisions in this legislation, and *further welcoming* the establishment of a Financial Reporting Centre to serve as Somalia's financial intelligence unit,

Underlining the importance of financial propriety in contributing to stability and prosperity, *welcoming* the efforts of the FGS to address corruption, and *stressing* the need for a zero tolerance approach to corruption to promote transparency and increase mutual accountability in Somalia,

Expressing serious concern at reports of illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in waters where Somalia has jurisdiction, *underlining* the importance of refraining from illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing, *welcoming* further reporting on the matter, and *encouraging* the FGS, with the support of the international community, to ensure that fishing licenses are issued in a responsible manner and in line with the appropriate Somali legal framework,

Expressing serious concern at the ongoing difficulties in delivering humanitarian aid in Somalia, and *condemning* in the strongest terms any party obstructing the safe delivery of humanitarian assistance, any misappropriation or diversion of any humanitarian funds or supplies, and acts of violence against and harassment of humanitarian workers,

Recalling that the FGS has the primary responsibility to protect its population, and *recognising* the FGS's responsibility, working with the FMSs, to build the capacity of its own national security forces, as a matter of priority,

Welcoming the FGS's efforts to address sexual- and gender-based violence, *encouraging* strengthened reporting mechanisms to facilitate prosecutions, and *further encouraging* the FGS to continue to implement its National Action Plan on Ending Sexual Violence in Conflict through training, accountability, victim support and oversight of the security sector,

Commending efforts towards peace, stability and reconciliation in the region, including the signing of the Joint Declaration of Peace and Friendship between Eritrea and Ethiopia on 9 July 2018, the signing of the Joint Declaration on Comprehensive Cooperation between Ethiopia, Somalia and Eritrea on 5 September 2018, and the signing of the Agreement on Peace, Friendship and Comprehensive Cooperation between Eritrea and Ethiopia on 16 September 2018,

Taking note of the decision of the Secretary-General to appoint a new Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa who will, inter alia, work with the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and other relevant subregional and regional organisations in consolidating recent gains in peace and security in the region, and carry out good offices on behalf of the Secretary-General,

Regretting that the SEMG has not been able to visit Eritrea since 2011 and fully discharge its mandate, and welcoming the meeting on 5 October 2018 between the representative of the Government of Eritrea and the Coordinator of the SEMG,

Welcoming that in recent months several armed groups in the region have declared that they will cease hostilities and engage peacefully in efforts to pursue reconciliation in the region,

Expressing concern at ongoing reports of Djiboutian combatants missing in action since the clashes in 2008, *calling on* Eritrea and Djibouti to continue to engage in resolving the issues of combatants, and *urging* Eritrea to share any further available detailed information pertaining to the combatants,

Taking note of increased engagement between Eritrea and Djibouti, *strongly encouraging* further efforts towards normalisation of relations and good neighbourhood between Djibouti and Eritrea, including cooperation in accordance with international law to resolve any disputes regarding their shared border, and *reaffirming* its readiness to continue to assist the parties in the peaceful settlement of any prolonged disputes,

Determining that the situation in Somalia continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

Lifting of arms embargoes, travel bans, asset freezes and targeted sanctions on Eritrea

1. *Recalls* paragraphs 16 and 17 of resolution 1907 (2009) and *recognises* that during the course of its current and four previous mandates the SEMG has not found conclusive evidence that Eritrea supports Al-Shabaab;

2. *Welcomes* the meeting on 25 September 2018 between the representative of the Government of Eritrea and the Chair of the Committee, and *further welcomes* the meeting on 5 October 2018 between the representative of the Government of Eritrea and the Coordinator of the SEMG, with the participation of the Chair of the Committee;

3. *Welcomes* the meeting between the President of Djibouti and the President of Eritrea in Jeddah on 17 September 2018, *underlines* the importance of continuing efforts towards the normalisation of relations between Eritrea and Djibouti for regional peace, stability and reconciliation, and *encourages* Member States, international, regional and subregional organisations and *other* parties to continue to support these efforts including through their good offices;

4. *Decides* to lift from the date of adoption of this resolution the arms embargoes, travel bans, asset freezes and targeted sanctions imposed on Eritrea by

the Security Council in its resolutions 1907 (2009) 2023 (2011), 2060 (2012) and 2111 (2013);

5. *Expresses its satisfaction* that funds derived from the mining sector of Eritrea are not contributing to violations of resolutions 1844 (2008), 1862 (2009), 1907 (2009) or 2023 (2011), and *decides* that from the date of adoption of this resolution, States are no longer required to undertake the measures set out in paragraph 13 of resolution 2023 (2011);

6. *Urges* Eritrea and Djibouti to engage on the issue of the Djiboutian combatants missing in action including through the mediation of any relevant party of their own choosing, and *further urges* Eritrea to make available any further detailed information;

7. *Urges* the two parties to continue efforts to settle their border dispute peacefully in a manner consistent with international law by conciliation, arbitration or judicial settlement, or by any other means of pacific dispute settlement identified in Article 33 of the Charter upon which they agree;

8. *Affirms* that it will continue to follow developments towards the normalisation of relations between Eritrea and Djibouti and will support the two countries in the resolution of these matters in good faith;

Committee

9. *Decides* that the mandate of the Committee pursuant to resolutions 751 (1992) and 1907 (2009) concerning Somalia and Eritrea, hereafter to be known as the Committee pursuant to resolution 751 (1992) concerning Somalia ("the Committee"), shall include the tasks as set out in paragraph 11 of resolution 751 (1992), paragraph 11 of resolution 1844 (2008), and paragraph 23 of resolution 2036 (2012), and *requests* that the Committee amends its guidelines, its implementation assistance notices and its website accordingly;

Somalia and Eritrea Monitoring Group

10. *Decides* to terminate the mandate of the Somalia and Eritrea Monitoring Group (SEMG), with effect from 16 December 2018;

Panel of Experts on Somalia

11. *Decides* to establish, with effect from the date of adoption of this resolution, until 15 December 2019, the Panel of Experts on Somalia, *further decides* that the mandate of the Panel of Experts shall include the tasks as set out in paragraph 13 of resolution 2060 (2012) and updated in paragraph 41 of resolution 2093 (2013), paragraph 15 of resolution 2182 (2014), paragraph 23 of resolution 2036 (2012) and paragraph 29 of this resolution as they relate to Somalia, and *expresses* its intention to review the mandate and take appropriate action regarding any extensions of the mandate of the Panel of Experts no later than 15 November 2019;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take the necessary administrative measures as expeditiously as possible to establish the Panel of Experts, consisting of six members and to be based in Nairobi, in consultation with the Committee, until 15 December 2019, drawing, as appropriate, on the expertise of the members of the SEMG established pursuant to previous resolutions, and *further requests* the Panel of Experts to include the necessary gender expertise, in line with paragraph 6 of resolution 2242 (2015);

Somalia Arms embargo

13. *Reaffirms* the arms embargo on Somalia, imposed by paragraph 5 of resolution 733 (1992) and further elaborated upon in paragraphs 1 and 2 of resolution 1425 (2002) and modified by paragraphs 33 to 38 of resolution 2093 (2013) and paragraphs 4 to 17 of resolution 2111 (2013), paragraph 14 of resolution 2125 (2013), paragraph 2 of resolution 2142 (2014), paragraph 2 of resolution 2244 (2015), paragraph 2 of resolution 2317 (2016) and paragraph 2 of resolution 2385 (2017) (hereafter referred to as "the arms embargo on Somalia");

14. *Decides* to renew the provisions set out in paragraph 2 of resolution 2142 (2014) until 15 November 2019, and in that context *reiterates* that the arms embargo on Somalia shall not apply to deliveries of weapons, ammunition or military equipment or the provision of advice, assistance or training, intended solely for the development of the Somali National Security Forces, to provide security for the Somali people, except in relation to deliveries of the items set out in the annex of resolution 2111 (2013);

15. *Reaffirms* its decision that the entry into Somali ports for temporary visits of vessels carrying arms and related materiel for defensive purposes does not amount to a delivery of such items in violation of the arms embargo on Somalia, provided that such items remain at all times aboard such vessels;

16. *Reiterates* its decision that weapons or military equipment sold or supplied solely for the development of the Somali National Security Forces may not be resold to, transferred to, or made available for use by, any individual or entity not in the service of the Somali National Security Forces, and *underlines* the responsibility of the FGS and the FMSs to ensure the safe and effective management, storage and security of their stockpiles;

17. *Welcomes* in this regard the improvements made by the FGS in weapons registration, recording and marking procedures and *encourages* further improvements, *expresses concern* at reports of continued weapons diversion from within the FGS and FMSs, *notes* that further improved weapons and ammunition management is vital in order to prevent the diversion of weapons and ammunition, and *reiterates* that the Security Council is committed to monitoring and assessing improvements in order to review the arms embargo when all conditions as set out in Security Council resolutions are met;

18. *Calls upon* the FGS to facilitate access for the Panel of Experts, on the basis of written requests to the FGS by the Panel of Experts submitted at least ten days in advance, to all FGS armouries in Mogadishu, all FGS imported weapons and ammunition prior to distribution, all FGS military storage facilities in Somalia National Army (SNA) sectors and all captured weaponry in FGS custody, and to allow photographs of weapons and ammunition in FGS custody and access to all FGS logbooks and distribution records, in order to enable the Security Council to monitor and assess progress in this area;

19. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the FGS to develop detailed Standard Operating Procedures for weapons and ammunition management including an issue and receipt system to track all weapons post distribution, *further welcomes* the development of a mechanism to distribute weapons and ammunition to regional forces, consistent with the requirements of this resolution including paragraph 16, *encourages* that such a mechanism be expanded to include other military equipment and supplies, consistent with the requirements of this resolution including paragraph 16, and *urges* the FGS to finalise and implement these procedures as soon as possible;

20. *Welcomes* the establishment of the Joint Verification Team (JVT) and *urges* Member States to support improved weapons and ammunition management to improve the capacity of the FGS to manage weapons and ammunition;

21. *Takes notes* of FGS reporting to the Security Council pursuant to paragraph 9 of resolution 2182 (2014) and as requested in paragraph 7 of resolution 2244 (2015), *calls on* the FGS and FMSs to accelerate the implementation of the National Security Architecture agreement, the Security Pact, and the transition plan in order to provide Somali-led security and protection to the people of Somalia, and *requests* the FGS to report to the Security Council in accordance with paragraph 9 of resolution 2182 (2014) and as requested in paragraph 7 of resolution 2244 (2015), by 15 March 2019 and then by 15 September 2019, on the structure, composition, strength and disposition of its Security Forces, including the status of regional and militia forces, and to include as annexes the reports of the JVT requested in paragraph 7 of resolution 2182 (2014);

22. *Recalls* that the FGS has the primary responsibility to notify the Committee of any deliveries of weapons, ammunition or military equipment or the provision of advice, assistance or training to its Security Forces, pursuant to paragraphs 3 to 8 of resolution 2142 (2014), and *calls upon* the FGS to improve its notifications to the Committee;

23. *Calls upon* the FGS to continue to improve the timeliness and content of notifications regarding the completion of deliveries, as set out in paragraph 6 of resolution 2142 (2014);

24. *Requests* the FGS to incorporate the notifications regarding the destination unit in the Somali National Security Forces upon distribution of imported arms and ammunition, detailed in paragraph 7 of resolution 2142 (2014), into the regular FGS reporting to the Security Council requested in paragraph 20;

25. *Stresses* Member States' obligations pursuant to the notification procedures set out in paragraph 11 (a) of resolution 2111 (2013), *urges* Member States to strictly follow the notification procedures for providing assistance to develop Somali security sector institutions, and *encourages* Member States to consider Implementation Assistance Notice No.2 of the Committee as a guide;

26. *Recalls* paragraph 2 of resolution 2142 (2014) and *notes* that support for the development of the Somali National Security Forces may include, inter alia, building infrastructure and provision of salaries and stipends solely provided to the Somali National Security Forces;

27. *Urges* increased cooperation by the FGS, FMSs and AMISOM, as set out in paragraph 6 of resolution 2182 (2014), to document and register all military equipment captured as part of offensive operations or in the course of carrying out their mandates;

28. *Calls upon* the FGS and FMSs to enhance civilian oversight of their security forces, to continue to adopt and implement appropriate vetting procedures of all defence and security personnel, including human rights vetting, and to investigate and as appropriate prosecute individuals responsible for violations of international law, including international humanitarian law and human rights law, and in this context *recalls* the importance of the Secretary-General's Human Rights and Due Diligence Policy in relation to the support provided by the United Nations to Somali security forces;

29. *Decides* that the Panel of Experts will continue the investigations started by the SEMG related to the export to Somalia of chemicals that may be used as oxidisers in the manufacture of improvised explosive devices, such as the precursors

ammonium nitrate, potassium chlorate, potassium nitrate and sodium chlorate with a view to considering further action, and *calls on* Members States and the FGS to cooperate with the Panel of Experts in this regard;

30. *Underlines* the importance of timely and predictable payment of salaries to the Somali security forces and *calls on* the FGS to continue to implement systems to improve the timeliness and accountability of payments and supply of provisions to the Somali security forces, and *welcomes* the progress made to date on biometric registration;

31. *Recalls* the need to build the capacities of the Somali National Security Forces, in particular the provision of equipment, training and mentoring, in order to develop credible, professional and representative security forces to enable the gradual handing over of security responsibilities from AMISOM to the Somali security forces in line with the transition plan, and *encourages* further donor support and coordination as set out in the Security Pact;

32. *Requests* the Secretary-General to conduct a technical assessment regarding the arms embargo, with options and recommendations for improving implementation, by 15 May 2019;

Threats to peace and security in Somalia

33. *Condemns* Al-Shabaab's increased revenue from natural resources including the taxing of the illicit sugar trade, agricultural production and livestock, *further expresses concern* at the group's involvement in the illicit charcoal trade, and *welcomes* the Panel of Experts' reporting on these issues;

34. *Requests* the FGS to cooperate with the Panel of Experts to facilitate interviews of suspected members of Al-Shabaab and ISIL (also known as D'aesh) held in FGS custody, in order to assist the Panel of Experts with its investigations;

35. *Welcomes* the efforts that the FGS has made to improve its financial management procedures including the successful completion of two International Monetary Fund (IMF) Staff-Monitoring programmes and the commitments to further reform made under the third Staff-Monitored programme, *encourages* the FGS and FMSs to maintain the pace of reform to increase transparency, accountability, comprehensiveness and predictability in revenue collection and budget allocations, and *expresses concern* at the generation and distribution of counterfeit Somali currency;

36. *Expresses concern* at the continued reports of corruption and diversion of public resources, including reports of alleged financial impropriety involving members of the FGS, FMSs, Federal Parliament and Somali opposition groups which pose a risk to state-building efforts, and in this context *strongly welcomes* the steps taken by the FGS to address cases of corruption and to develop anti-corruption legislation;

37. *Underlines* that individuals engaged in acts that threaten the peace and reconciliation process in Somalia may be listed for targeted measures;

38. *Recognises* that addressing outstanding constitutional issues around power and resource sharing between the FGS and FMSs is crucial for Somalia's stability, *calls* upon the FGS and the FMSs to work constructively together to address these issues in an inclusive manner, and *encourages* the FGS and FMSs to implement the outstanding elements of the National Security Architecture agreement, including decisions around the make-up, distribution and command and control of the security forces and resource-sharing;

39. *Reaffirms* Somalia's sovereignty over its natural resources;

40. *Reiterates its serious concern* that the petroleum sector in Somalia could be a driver for increased conflict, *welcomes* the political agreement on petroleum and mineral resource-sharing reached by the FGS and the FMSs in June 2018, and *underlines* the vital importance of the FGS and FMSs putting in place, without undue delay, resource-sharing arrangements and credible legal frameworks to ensure that the petroleum sector in Somalia does not become a source of increased tension;

Somalia Charcoal ban

41. *Reaffirms* its decision regarding the ban on the import and export of Somali charcoal, as set out in paragraph 22 of resolution 2036 (2012) ("the charcoal ban"), *welcomes* efforts of Member States to prevent the import of charcoal of Somali origin, *reiterates* that the FGS and FMSs shall take the necessary measures to prevent the export of charcoal from Somalia, *urges* Member States to continue their efforts to ensure full implementation of the ban, and *further reiterates* that individuals and entities engaged in acts which violate the charcoal ban may be listed for targeted measures;

42. *Reiterates* its requests in paragraph 18 of resolution 2111 (2013) and paragraph 16 of resolution 2431 (2018) that AMISOM support and assist the FGS and FMSs in implementing the total ban on the export of charcoal from Somalia, and *calls upon* AMISOM to facilitate regular access for the Panel of Experts to charcoal exporting ports;

43. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Combined Maritime Forces (CMF) to disrupt the export and import of charcoal to and from Somalia, and *further welcomes* the cooperation between the Panel of Experts and CMF in keeping the Committee informed on the charcoal trade;

44. *Expresses concern* that the charcoal trade provides significant funding for Al-Shabaab, and in that context reiterates paragraphs 11 to 21 of resolution 2182 (2014), and *further decides* to renew the provisions set out in paragraph 15 of resolution 2182 (2014) until 15 November 2019;

45. *Condemns* the ongoing export of charcoal from Somalia, in violation of the total ban on the export of charcoal, *calls* on Member States to share information with the Panel of Experts, *requests* the Panel of Experts to continue to focus on this in their next report and propose further measures, taking account of human rights concerns, and *expresses* its intention to consider further measures if violations continue;

46. *Encourages* the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to continue its work with the FGS, within its current mandate, under the Indian Ocean Forum on Maritime Crime to bring together relevant Member States and international organisations to develop strategies to disrupt the trade in Somali charcoal;

Humanitarian access in Somalia

47. *Expresses grave concern* at the ongoing humanitarian situation in Somalia and its impact on the people of Somalia, *commends* the efforts of the United Nations humanitarian agencies and other humanitarian actors to deliver life-saving assistance to vulnerable populations, *condemns* in the strongest terms attacks against humanitarian actors and any misuse of donor assistance and the obstruction of the delivery of humanitarian aid, *reiterates* its demand that all parties allow and facilitate full, safe and unhindered access for the timely delivery of aid to persons in need across Somalia, and *encourages* the FGS to improve the regulatory environment for aid donors;

48. *Decides* that until 15 November 2019 and without prejudice to humanitarian assistance programmes conducted elsewhere, the measures imposed by paragraph 3 of resolution 1844 (2008) shall not apply to the payment of funds, other financial assets or economic resources necessary to ensure the timely delivery of urgently needed humanitarian assistance in Somalia, by the United Nations, its specialised agencies or programmes, humanitarian organisations having observer status with the United Nations General Assembly that provide humanitarian assistance, and their implementing partners including bilaterally or multilaterally funded non-governmental organisations participating in the United Nations Humanitarian Response Plan for Somalia;

49. *Requests* the Emergency Relief Coordinator to report to the Security Council by 15 October 2019 on the delivery of humanitarian assistance in Somalia and on any impediments to the delivery of humanitarian assistance in Somalia, and *requests* relevant United Nations agencies and humanitarian organisations having observer status with the United Nations General Assembly and their implementing partners that provide humanitarian assistance in Somalia to increase their cooperation and willingness to share information with the United Nations;

Targeted sanctions in Somalia

50. *Recalls* its decisions in resolution 1844 (2008) which imposed targeted sanctions and resolutions 2002 (2011) and 2093 (2013) which expanded the listing criteria, *notes* one of the listing criteria under resolution 1844 (2008) is engaging in or providing support for acts that threaten the peace, security or stability of Somalia, and *decides* that such acts may also include but are not limited to planning, directing or committing acts involving sexual and gender-based violence;

51. *Reiterates* its willingness to adopt targeted measures against individuals and entities on the basis of the above-mentioned criteria;

52. *Recalls* paragraph 2 (c) of resolution 2060 (2012) and emphasises that certain misappropriation of financial resources is a criterion for designation and applies to misappropriation at all levels;

53. *Reiterates* its request for Member States to assist the Panel of Experts in its investigations, and *further requests* the FGS, FMSs and AMISOM to share information with the Panel of Experts regarding Al-Shabaab activities;

Reporting

54. *Requests* the Panel of Experts to provide monthly updates to the Committee pursuant to resolution 751 (1992), and a comprehensive midterm update, as well as to submit, for the Security Council's consideration, through the Committee, a final report by 15 October 2019;

55. *Requests* the Committee, in accordance with its mandate and in consultation with the Panel of Experts and other relevant United Nations entities, to consider the recommendations contained in the reports of the Panel of Experts and recommend to the Security Council ways to improve the implementation of and compliance with the Somalia arms embargo, the measures regarding the import and export of charcoal from Somalia, as well as implementation of the measures imposed by paragraphs 1, 3 and 7 of resolutions 1844 (2008) in response to continuing violations;

56. *Requests* the Committee to consider, where and when appropriate, visits to selected countries by the Chair and/or Committee members to enhance the full and effective implementation of the measures above, with a view to encouraging States to comply fully with this resolution;

57. *Requests* the Secretary General to keep the Security Council informed of developments towards the normalisation of relations between Eritrea and Djibouti and to report to the Security Council no later than 15 February 2019 and every six months thereafter, and *expresses its intention* to keep this request under review in light of developments;

58. *Decides* to remain seized of the matter.

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Security Council

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14 November 2018
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Letter dated 12 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith information bulletins from the Russian Federation Ministry of Defence regarding the status of implementation of the memorandum on the creation of de-escalation areas in the Syrian Arab Republic for 10–12 November 2018 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) V. **Nebenzia**

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Annex to the letter dated 12 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Information bulletin from the Russian Federation Ministry of Defence regarding the status of implementation of the memorandum on the creation of de-escalation areas (10 November 2018)

Observance of the ceasefire regime

Monitoring groups have continued to monitor observance of the ceasefire regime as part of implementing the memorandum on the creation of de-escalation areas in the Syrian Arab Republic, signed by the Russian Federation, the Republic of Turkey and the Islamic Republic of Iran on 4 May 2017.

The number of violations by illegal armed groups active in the Idlib de-escalation area has not decreased.

The Russian representative office of the Russian and Turkish Joint Commission reviewing issues related to violations of the ceasefire regime has reported nine incidents of gunfire in the following Governorates: four in Aleppo, four in Hama and one in Ladhiqiyah. Six members of the Syrian armed forces were killed and five wounded in the exchanges of fire.

The Turkish representative office has not reported any violations.

Provision of humanitarian aid to the population of the Syrian Arab Republic

The Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides in the Syrian Arab Republic has not carried out any humanitarian operations over the past 24 hours. In total, 1,987 humanitarian operations have been carried out. The total weight of humanitarian cargo delivered is 3,111.43 tons.

Reconciliation of opposing sides

No ceasefire agreements have been signed over the past 24 hours.

The number of populated areas that have joined the reconciliation process is 2,518.

The number of armed groups that have announced their commitment to accepting and fulfilling the terms of the ceasefire is unchanged — it is still 234.

Information bulletin from the Russian Federation Ministry of Defence regarding the status of implementation of the memorandum on the creation of de-escalation areas (11 November 2018)

Observance of the ceasefire regime

Monitoring groups have continued to monitor observance of the ceasefire regime as part of implementing the memorandum on the creation of de-escalation areas in the Syrian Arab Republic, signed by the Russian Federation, the Republic of Turkey and the Islamic Republic of Iran on 4 May 2017.

Violations by illegal armed groups active in the Idlib de-escalation area have continued.

The Russian representative office of the Russian and Turkish Joint Commission reviewing issues related to violations of the ceasefire regime has reported two incidents of gunfire in Aleppo Governorate.

The Turkish representative office has not reported any violations.

Provision of humanitarian aid to the population of the Syrian Arab Republic

Over the past 24 hours, the Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides in the Syrian Arab Republic has carried out two humanitarian operations.

In total, 1,989 humanitarian operations have been carried out. The total weight of humanitarian cargo delivered is 3,115.33 tons.

Reconciliation of opposing sides

No ceasefire agreements have been signed over the past 24 hours.

The number of populated areas that have joined the reconciliation process is 2,518.

The number of armed groups that have announced their commitment to accepting and fulfilling the terms of the ceasefire is unchanged — it is still 234.

Information bulletin from the Russian Federation Ministry of Defence regarding the status of implementation of the memorandum on the creation of de-escalation areas (12 November 2018)

Observance of the ceasefire regime

Monitoring groups have continued to monitor observance of the ceasefire regime as part of implementing the memorandum on the creation of de-escalation areas in the Syrian Arab Republic, signed by the Russian Federation, the Republic of Turkey and the Islamic Republic of Iran on 4 May 2017.

The Russian representative office of the Russian and Turkish Joint Commission reviewing issues related to violations of the ceasefire regime has reported three incidents of gunfire in Aleppo Governorate.

The Turkish representative office has not reported any violations.

Provision of humanitarian aid to the population of the Syrian Arab Republic

The Centre for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides in the Syrian Arab Republic has not carried out any humanitarian operations over the past 24 hours.

In total, 1,989 humanitarian operations have been carried out. The total weight of humanitarian cargo delivered is 3,115.33 tons.

Reconciliation of opposing sides

No ceasefire agreements have been signed over the past 24 hours.

The number of populated areas that have joined the reconciliation process is 2,518.

The number of armed groups that have announced their commitment to accepting and fulfilling the terms of the ceasefire is unchanged — it is still 234.

United Nations S/2018/1012

Security Council

Distr.: General
13 November 2018

Original: English

Identical letters dated 12 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

I write to alert you of the latest series of terror attacks committed by the Hamas terrorist organization against Israel. This series of attacks marks the largest assault by Hamas on innocent Israeli civilians since 2014.

On 12 November 2018, at 4.35 p.m. (GMT+2), Hamas operatives began a major terror escalation by firing an anti-tank guided missile into Israel. The missile targeted and hit a bus, severely injuring an Israeli soldier and setting the stage for a far more robust attack by Hamas against Israel.

Since the initial attack, Hamas has fired no less than 200 rockets into Israel in a non-stop assault lasting two full hours. The terror organization is intentionally targeting mass civilian population centres in Israel. Thankfully, Israel's Iron Dome air defence system has successfully intercepted and blocked more than 60 of these rockets from hitting Israeli communities, saving the lives of countless innocent civilians.

By 7.30 p.m. (GMT-5), Hamas had fired at least 400 rockets into Israel, targeting an even wider range of civilian population centres to include the cities of Be'er Sheva, Ashkelon and their surrounding communities. Rocket sirens have reached as far as the Dead Sea (99 km away). Hamas' rockets have hit and damaged at least one house and two apartment buildings in Ashkelon and one house in Netivot, resulting in 1 Israeli civilian dead and at least 25 people injured, some severely. Other rockets have landed near a bakery and supermarket filled with customers, causing massive fires.

In response to Hamas' escalation against Israel, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) have targeted 70 Hamas and other terrorist organizations' strongholds and terror cells. IDF has also targeted the Hamas operatives who launched the rockets, as well as Hamas military compounds, facilities and three combat tunnels throughout the Gaza Strip.

To prevent escalation, Israel has worked tirelessly with all relevant international parties, including the United Nations. Hamas' latest onslaught, however, proves that the internationally recognized terrorist organization shows blatant disregard for the well-being of civilians — Israeli or Palestinian. Hamas also does not hesitate to use its own people as tools for its provocations.

Please recycle

After a day of rocket barrages, Hamas has again demonstrated that it is a terrorist organization. To the world, Hamas presents the civilians of Gaza as victims, but then uses them as human shields.

I call upon the Security Council to condemn Hamas in the strongest terms for its indiscriminate attacks against innocent civilian populations. It is time this body acknowledges and finally designates Hamas as a terrorist organization.

Sole responsibility for this assault lies with Hamas. Israel has cooperated with all international bodies, including the United Nations, but the aggressive escalation from Gaza indicates that there are terrorist elements within the Gaza Strip pushing for further rounds of violence that will cause destruction and losses. Israel reserves the right, like any other State, to do everything necessary to protect its citizens.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Danny **Danon**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations S/2018/1013

Security Council

Distr.: General
13 November 2018

Original: English

Letter dated 12 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to submit herewith the decisions of the meeting of the National Pre-Transitional Committee on the implementation of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan held in Khartoum on 21 and 22 October 2018 (see annex).

Having brought this matter to your kind attention, I would be grateful if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Omer Dahab Fadl **Mohamed**
Permanent Representative

18-19269 (E) 041218

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 12 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Resolutions of the National Pre-Transitional Committee, coming out of its first meeting, held in Khartoum on 21 and 22 October 2018

The National Pre-Transitional Committee at its 1st Meeting after extensive and cordial deliberations RESOLVED that:

1. The Government of the Republic of South Sudan make available to the National Pre-Transitional Committee (NPTC) the sum of SSP 100 million and $1 million US to facilitate the initial activities of the Committee during the Pre-Transitional Period.

2. The National Pre-Transitional Committee (NPTC) immediately opens two current National Pre-Transitional Committee Fund bank accounts at the Bank of South Sudan. The accounts shall be in national and foreign currencies respectively, and will be used for the purpose of financing the Pre-Transitional activities.

3. The Committee shall open the NPTC Partners Fund bank accounts.

4. The National Pre-Transitional Committee (NPTC) undertakes to meet, over the coming days, with the leadership of the SPLM/IO and SSOA in Khartoum, and with the leadership of the incumbent TGoNU, FDs and OPP in Juba respectively. Discussions will focus on efforts to build trust among the parties and to address issues that will help to further promote peace in South Sudan.

5. The various Committees constituting the Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms are directed to prepare the budgets for their operations and submit the same to the National Pre-Transitional Committee (NPTC) no later than two weeks from the signing of these Resolutions by the Committee Chairman.

6. The second meeting of the Committee (NPTC) shall take place in Juba or any other place to be agreed upon by the Chairperson in consultation with his two deputies and communicated to the members by the Chairperson, on November 3–4, 2018.

By ORDER of the Chairman of the National Pre-Transitional Committee.

Hon. Tut Gatluak Manimee — Chairperson NPTC

National Pre-Transitional Committee (NPTC)

Draft Terms of Reference

October 2018

Further to Article 1.4.7 of the Revitalised Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS), the Terms of Reference for the National Pre-Transitional Committee (NPTC) shall be as follows:

1. Mandate

The NPTC pursuant to its formation by the President of the Republic of South Sudan shall:

(i) Coordinate and have oversight responsibility for the implementation of the activities of the eight (8) month Pre-Transitional Period in collaboration with the Incumbent TGoNU;

(ii) Draw the road map for implementing the political tasks of the Pre-Transitional Period. This will include a detailed time table and workable plan of action for the completion of all the tasks set out in Article 1.4.3 of the R-ARCSS;

(iii) Address issues of VIP security based on details of security arrangements and preparations worked out for new Ministers, among others;

(iv) Submit monthly written reports to the Chairperson of the Reconstituted JMEC (RJMEC), the parties and other stakeholders;

(v) Prepare a detailed budget for the activities of the Pre-Transitional Period as outlined in Article 1.4.3 of the R-ARCSS;

(vi) Establish a Fund, to be drawn from government funds and contributions of donors, for the implementation of the activities of the Pre-Transitional Period;

(vii) Agree on the special account set up to keep the funds and its operational arrangements, as well as the bank in which funds will be deposited by the Ministry of Finance and Planning of the incumbent TGoNU;

(viii) Manage the fund transparently and report on it monthly to the President of the Republic of South Sudan and to the Parties;

(ix) Oversee the tasks and progress of the Technical Boundaries Commission (TBC), the Independent Boundaries Commission (IBC) and the Referendum Commission on Number and Boundaries of States (RCNBS);

(x) Oversee the reconstitution of the Council of States; and

(xi) Reconstitute the Disarmament, Demobilization and Re-Integration Commission (DDR Commission), the Joint Defense Board (JDB), the Strategic Defense and Security Review Board (SDSRB), and the Joint Military Ceasefire Commission (JMCC).

2. Secretariat in support of NPTC

An NPTC Secretariat shall be established to assist the committee in the day to day discharge of its responsibilities.

3. Composition and Quorum of the NPTC

The NPTC shall comprise ten (10) members representing the Parties as follows: five (5) for Incumbent TGoNU, two (2) for SLPM/A-IO, one (1) for SSOA, one (1) for FDs, and one (1) for OPP, as outlined in Article 1.4.7.1 of the R-ARCSS. It shall be chaired by the Incumbent TGoNU representative with two Deputy Chairs to be nominated by the SPLM/A-IO and SSOA respectively.

As outlined in the Rules of Procedure and Decisions of the NPTC, the quorum will consist of [] of the 10 members [] of whom shall be from the Incumbent TGoNU and at least [] from the other members. All the decisions of the committee shall be adopted by consensus.

4. Financing and Operational Support

As part of the general support for the pre transitional activities the NPTC shall include in that budget a spending line for its own operations and projected activities including support to the Secretariat formed to assist in its operations.

The NPTC shall give full account and justification for its spending and include a financial monthly report to RJMEC, parties and other stakeholders as part of its regular reporting functions.

Where and when necessary the NPTC shall seek administrative, technical and logistical support from IGAD, the African Union and the United Nations.

5. Notice of Meetings and Agendas

Regular meetings of the NPTC shall be convened by the Chairman at least once weekly. Draft agendas shall be circulated to all members of the NPTC together with the official request for meetings no less than 48 hours in advance of any such meetings. Any member of the NPTC can suggest additional agenda items before it is formally accepted at the start of each meeting.

The Chair can call for extraordinary meetings of the NPTC at any time or on the request of at least two other members of the NPTC. Draft agendas will be circulated when the request is made to members to attend.

6. Rules of Procedure and Decisions of the NPTC

Separate and detailed rules of procedure governing the conduct of the NPTC are attached as an addendum to this TOR. It also covers detailed rules governing the setup, management and operation of the Fund for the financing of all pre-transitional activities covered under the R-ARCSS.

7. Minutes and Records

The Secretary selected by the Board shall be responsible for keeping detailed minutes of all the meetings of the NPTC and shall ensure that such meetings are duly circulated to all members in as short a time as possible after the conduct of meetings.

The NPTC shall be responsible for keeping all records of the meetings as well as all financial records of disbursements and grants received, which shall be made available to all members, and the RJMEC.

8. Observers to Meetings of the NPTC

In the conduct of its regular and extraordinary meetings the NPTC will allow for observers of the RJMEC and the IGAD Secretariat to sit in on its regular and

extraordinary meetings. This is to allow for smoother monitoring and evaluation of the pre-transitional period.

The NPTC may also invite other observers as it deems necessary to either some of all of its meetings.

9. Period of Operation

The NPTC shall remain in operation for a period of eight (8) months from the time of its inception, which is referred to as the Pre-Transitional period in the R-ARCSS.

NPTC — Draft Roadmap for Implementation of the Pre-Transitional Tasks

No	*Tasks*	*Specific Actions Required by the NPTC*	*Comments*	*Timing*
1.	Establish NPTC (Art. 1.4.7)	1. Attend the first meeting in Khartoum 2. Agree on TOR, Rules of Procedure and Roadmap 3. Begin work on Budget Proposal 4. Agree on Rules governing management of the Pre-Transitional Fund (PTF) 5. Agree on venue and timing of future meetings	The first meeting to be convened by the IGAD Secretariat bringing together all ten members of the NPTC	October 21–22, 2018
2.	Reconstitute Key Agreement Institutions and Mechanisms	1. Prepare the TOR's and Operational Procedures for the following: Disarmament, Demobilization and Re-Integration Commission (DDR Commission), Joint Defense Board (JDB), Strategic Defense and Security Review Board (SDSRB), and the Joint Military Ceasefire Commission (JMCC). 2. Agree a framework of reporting by mechanisms to NPTC and JMEC. Also detail feedback process to these mechanisms 3. Convene initial meetings of mechanisms	These mechanisms will take the lead in formulating specific plans for: (i) disarmament (ii) disengagement and separation of forces (iii) cantonment (iv) demobilization (v) demilitarization of civilian areas etc. The NPTC will however actively monitor their work and ensure implementation	To be completed by November 15, 2018
3.	Disengagement and separation of forces (Art. 2.2.2)	1. Monitor closely with the help of the security mechanisms 2. Provide timely feedback where timelines are missed	In setting up the various mechanisms the NPTC will ensure a verifiable reporting system to enable it to closely monitor implementation	To completed by November 15, 2018
4.	Disarmament, Demobilization, Cantonment etc. (Art. 2.2.3)	1. Supervise closely the work of the responsible mechanisms in (2) above to ensure adherence to timelines 2. Provide timely feedback to the mechanisms to ensure conformity to the agreed upon schedule 3. Make available budgeted funding 4. Monitor closely use of funds	The security mechanisms must report regularly to the NPTC and JMEC in order to monitor implementation	To be completed by End-December 2018

No	*Tasks*	*Specific Actions Required by the NPTC*	*Comments*	*Timing*
5.	Training and redeployment of unified forces (Art. 2.2.10)	1. Close supervision by the NPTC 2. Make available budgeted funding 3. Monitor closely use of funds	The NPTC will ensure close compliance with stated rules focused on transparency and accountability	Starting End-December 2018
6.	VIP Arrangements for returning opposition (Art. 1.4.7.3)	1. Coordinate with opposition parties on timing etc. 2. Provide necessary resources 3. Liaise directly with forces selected to provide security 4. Meet with parties to brief on progress agree on a workable solution	The NPTC will take full responsibility for working out the details of the security arrangements together with the security mechanisms and the international community	To be completed by the start of the Transition period
7.	Disseminate R-ARCSS to South Sudanese population both in the country and outside (Art. 1.4.3.1)	1. Collaborate with the IGAD Secretariat and JMEC to help in underwriting associated costs 2. Engage international donors to help fund campaign 3. Include as budgeted costs	This is an important exercise to ensure buy-in by the population of the R-ARCSS.	Throughout the 8 month Pre-Transitional Period
8.	Prepare a budget for activities of the Pre-Transitional Period (Art. 1.4.7.3)	1. Calculate the overall cost for sustaining the Pre-Transitional Institutions and Mechanisms 2. Calculate costs associated with disarmament demobilization, cantonment, training etc. 3. Calculate the costs involved in the process of national healing and reconciliation adopting a matrix of activities 4. Calculate costs associated with VIP Security 5. Calculate the costs for maintaining the TBC, IBC and RCNBS 6. Determine overall funding requirements 7. Decide on I-TGoNU share of funding	Wherever possible the NPTC will employ the services of subject matter and financial experts to help in determining reliable estimates to be used in the budget, particularly with respect to demobilization, cantonment and military training costs. Initial work to commence at first meeting of the NPTC.	To be completed by November 9, 2018

No	*Tasks*	*Specific Actions Required by the NPTC*	*Comments*	*Timing*
		8. Decide on share of donor funding		
		9. Complete detailed budget		
9.	Establish Pre-Transitional Fund (PTF) (Art. 1.4.8)	1. Agree on the terms and conditions for managing the PTF	Wherever possible the NPTC should draw on the good offices of the IGAD Special Envoy to assist in making the case for assistance to the donors	To be completed by December 15, 2018
		2. Agree on the special account set up to keep the funds and its operational arrangements		
		3. Agree on the bank where funds will be deposited		
		4. Manage the fund transparently and report on it monthly to the President of the RSS and to the Parties		
		5. Meet with the I-TGoNU to agree on its contribution to the Fund based on the overall budget to cover the Pre-Transitional activities		
		6. Draw up a list of potential donors and arrange meetings with specific requests for assistance based on the budget		
10.	Organize process of national healing and reconciliation (Art. 1.4.3.3)	1. Adopt a matrix of activities consistent with the process of National healing and Reconciliation	NPTC to decide on specific actions and activities required to pursue healing and reconciliation	Over the eight month period
		2. Merge efforts with the already set up National Dialogue		
11.	Incorporate R-ARCSS in the TCRSS, 2011 (Art. 1.4.3.5)	1. Coordinate with the NCAC on the incorporation of the Bill	The NCAC will undertake this activity immediately upon being reconstituted and will keep the NPTC and JMEC informed of its progress	Complete no later than November 30, 2018; end Pre-Transition Period
		2. Ensure that the bill is ultimately signed by the President		

No	*Tasks*	*Specific Actions Required by the NPTC*	*Comments*	*Timing*
12.	Reviewing and drafting necessary bills consistent with the R-ARCSS (Art. 1.4.3.6)	Coordinate closely with the NCAC to ensure timely review and complete amendments to relevant National Security legislation including (i) The SPLA Act, 2009. (ii) National Security Service Act, 2014. (iii) The Police Service Act, 2009. (iv) The Prison Service Act, 2011. (v) The Wildlife Service Act, 2011 and (vi) the Fire Brigade Service Act 2009 (Art. 1.18.1.2)	The NCAC will undertake this activity immediately upon completion of incorporating the R-ARCSS into the TCRSS, and will keep the NPTC and JMEC informed of its progress	Complete no later than February 2019
13.	Perform tasks entrusted to the TBC, IBC and Referendum Commission on number and boundaries of States (Art. 1.4.3.2)	1. Oversee tasks performed by the Committees (Art. 1.15.1) 2. Ensure that the committees are properly constituted and performing their function 3. Meet periodically with committees to determine progress and help iron out emerging issues	These activities will be undertaken by the various committees but the NPTC will maintain a close watch to ensure implementation, and in particular their adherence to the strict deadlines	Complete no later than January 22, 2018
14.	Reconstitute the Council of States (Art 1.14.4)	1. Ensure timely reconstitution of States by closely following the activities of the IBC 2. Oversee the work of the IBC/RCNBS in that regard		Complete on expiry of term of the IBC
15.	Report to JMEC, Parties and other Stakeholders	1. Prepare and submit written monthly reports in a timely manner 2. Provide occasional face to face briefings to RJMEC		Throughout the 8 month Pre-Transitional Period

RULES OF PROCEDURE GOVERNING THE OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL PRE-TRANSITIONAL COMMITTEE — NPTC

AS ADOPTED BY THE COMMITTEE ON THE 22ND OF OCTOBER 2018 IN KHARTOUM

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RULES OF PROCEDURE GOVERNING THE OPERATIONS OF THE NATIONAL PRE-TRANSITIONAL COMMITTEE-NPTC

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 1.4.7 of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan, the following Rules of Procedure that shall govern the Operations of the National Pre-Transitional Committee are hereby adopted and promulgated.

Application of the Rules

1. These rules of procedure, hereinafter The Rules, shall apply to any meeting of the National Pre-Transitional Committee and Sub-Committees thereunder, and shall enter into force upon adoption by the National Pre-Transitional Committee.

Power of The Committee

2. 1). The National Pre-Transitional Committee shall have all powers necessary for the execution of its functions under the R-ARCSS and these Rules of Procedure.

2). The mandate, exercise of powers, work, meetings and deliberations of the Committee shall be guided by the R-ARCSS and regulated by these Rules and Procedures.

Decision Making

3. 1). All the decisions of the Committee on all its agenda shall be made by consensus as provided for under Article 1.4.7.1 of the R-ARCSS.

2). The Chairperson shall strive to create consensus on every matter put up for decision before the Committee, without undue regard to the strength and number of nominees from the parties.

Presiding At NTPC Meetings

4. 1). The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Committee.

2). If the Chairperson is absent during a meeting or any part thereof, the Deputy Chairperson nominated by the SPLMA/IO shall act as the Chairperson, who, while acting as Chairperson, shall have the same powers and duties as the Chairperson.

3). If the Chairperson and Deputy Chairperson nominated by the SPLMA/IO are absent during a meeting or any part thereof, the Deputy Chairperson nominated by SSOA shall act as the Chairperson, who, while acting as Chairperson, shall have the same powers and duties as the Chairperson.

4). The Chairperson and the Deputy Chairpersons shall at all times participate in the discussions of the Committee as Members and may also participate in creating consensus in that capacity.

MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE

Meetings of the Committee

5. 1). The Committee shall be so organized as to enable it to function continuously and shall meet as often as may be necessary and at least once a week. For this purpose, each Member of the Committee should be prepared, at short notice, to attend meetings of the Committee.

2). The Committee shall meet without delay and in any case within forty-eight hours should any party to the R-ARCSS refer a matter to it;

3). The Committee shall meet at the directives of the Chairperson in consultation with the Deputy Chairpersons;

4). The Committee may also meet at the request of any Member of the Committee, or of the Head of Secretariat; and

5). The Committee shall meet at the request of the IGAD Mediation, and/or the IGAD Special Envoy, R-JMEC and all the R-ARCSS Implementation institutions to consider any matter of an urgent character arising out of the role of the IGAD Mediation and/or the IGAD Special Envoy as prescribed in the R-ARCSS and to which they may wish to bring to the attention of the Committee.

Place of Meetings

6. 1). Meetings of the Committee shall be held in Juba or any other place in South Sudan as the Committee may decide.

2). Without prejudice to the provisions of sub-paragraph (1) above, meetings of the Committee may be held at places to be determined, from time to time, by the Chairperson in consultation with the Deputy Chairpersons.

Notice of Meetings

7. 1). The Secretariat shall notify each Member of the Committee as far in advance as possible and in any case not later than forty-eight (48) hours in advance of the calling and venue a Committee meeting.

2). No advance notice of the calling of a meeting shall be required when the Committee at an earlier meeting has decided the date, time and place of a meeting.

3). In case of emergency and in any other exceptional circumstances as the Chairperson or, in his absence or disability, the Vice-Chairperson acting as Chairperson may decide this time limit shall not apply.

AGENDA OF THE COMMITTEE

Matters under Consideration by the Committee

8. The Head of Secretariat, with the approval of the Committee, shall from time to time, as the Committee deems necessary communicate to all parties to the R-ARCSS and the stakeholders, the matters of general interest, which may be under consideration by the Committee.

Provisional Agenda

9. The Head of Secretariat shall prepare, in consultation with the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairpersons, the provisional agenda for meetings of the Committee. The provisional agenda shall include:

(a) All items which the Committee has previously decided to include in the provisional agenda;

(b) All items referred to the Committee by the Parties;

(c) All items the inclusion of which is requested by a member of the Committee;

(d) All items the inclusion of which is requested by IGAD Mediation and/or the IGAD Special Envoy, R-MEC or any of the partners and friends of South Sudan;

(e) Reports of the Head of Secretariat, including reports concerning action taken on decisions and recommendations of the Committee; and

(f) Such other items as the Head of Secretariat shall consider it necessary to include, after consultation with the Chairperson and the Deputy Chairpersons.

Circulation of the Provisional Agenda

10. 1). The provisional agenda for meetings and the supporting documents shall be sent to each Member as far in advance as possible, and in any case not less than forty-eight hours before the meeting. In exceptional circumstances, the Chairperson or, in his absence or disability, the Deputy Chairperson acting as Chairperson may waive this time limit.

2). The provisional agenda and the supporting documents shall also be sent as far in advance as possible to the IGAD Mediation, the IGAD Special Envoy and R-JMEC.

Explanatory Memoranda

11. Each matter brought to the attention of the Committee by the Head of Secretariat or proposed for inclusion to the agenda by any Member of the Committee, shall be accompanied by an explanatory memorandum and, if possible, by basic documents or by a draft resolution.

Circulation of Documents of Particular Importance

12. Documents of particular importance, such as reports prepared for the Cabinet, documents touching on Security arrangements and implementation of the milestones of the R-ARCSS, shall be sent to each Member as far in advance as possible, and in any case not less than seven days before the meeting at which they are to be considered.

Adoption of the Agenda

13. The Committee shall adopt the agenda for a meeting at the beginning of each meeting. However, the Committee may at any time decide in advance upon its agenda for a subsequent meeting or meetings, in which case no provisional agenda shall be laid before that meeting or those meetings for adoption.

Revision of the Agenda

14. During any meeting the Committee may revise its agenda by adding, deleting, deferring or amending any item.

CONDUCT OF BUSINESS AT MEETINGS

Closed and Open Meetings

15. The Committee may decide to hold closed or open meetings. In the absence of a decision to hold open meetings, meetings shall be closed.

Quorum

16. The quorum of the Committee shall be seven members out of which at least 3 (three) shall be from the opposition.

Functions of the Chairperson during the Committee Meetings

17. 1). The Chairperson shall declare the opening and closing of each meeting of the Committee, direct the discussions, ensure observance of these Rules, accord the right to speak, put questions and announce decisions. He shall rule on points of order and, subject to these Rules, have control of the proceedings of the Committee and over the maintenance of order at its meetings.

2). The Chairperson may propose to the Committee the limitation of the time to be allowed to speakers, the limitation of the number of dates each Member may speak on any question, the closure of the list of speakers or the closure of the debate. He may also propose the suspension or adjournment of the meeting or the adjournment of the debate on the item under discussion.

3). The Chairperson shall, in exercising his functions, remain under the authority of the Committee.

4). No Member may address the Committee without having previously obtained the permission of the Chairperson. The Chairperson shall call upon speakers in the order in which they signify their desire to speak. The Chairperson may call a speaker to order if his remarks are not relevant to the subject under discussion.

Seeking Clarification

18. During the course of debate a Member may seek clarification and the request shall immediately be decided upon by the Chairperson in accordance with these Rules. A Member seeking clarification shall not speak on the substance of the matter under discussion.

Time for Speaking

19. The amount of time to be allowed to each Member to speak on any question may at any time be at the discretion of the Chairperson.

Adjournment of Deliberations on a Matter

20. During deliberations on any matter a Member may move for the adjournment of the discussions on the item under deliberation. If the Committee is in favor, the Chairperson shall declare the adjournment of the deliberations. The Chairperson may limit the time to be allowed to speakers under this Rule.

Closure of Deliberations

21. The Chairperson or any member of the Committee, may during any deliberations propose the closure of discussions on the item. If the Committee is in favor, the Chairperson shall declare the closure of the deliberations, after which the Committee shall make a decision on the item accordingly.

Proposals and Amendments

22. 1). Proposals shall be introduced in writing and handed to the Head of Secretariat, who shall notify the Chairperson of the same.

2). Upon the directive of the Chairperson in consultation with the Deputy Chairpersons any such proposals received shall be considered and shall be put in the agenda of the Committee where necessary, and in any other case shall be dealt with as deemed appropriate by the Chairperson.

3). The Chairperson or any Member may at any time before a decision is taken, propose any amendments to a proposal.

4). As a general rule, no proposal shall be discussed or put up for decision unless it has been circulated to all the Members not later than the day preceding the meeting.

5). The Chairperson in consultation with the Deputy Chairperson may, in exceptional cases, permit the discussion and consideration of a proposal even though such a proposal has only been circulated the same day.

Withdrawal of Proposals

23. A proposal may be withdrawn by its proposer at any time before a final decision is taken on it. A proposal which has thus been withdrawn will be put up for decision if reintroduced by any Member, and shall have the same right of precedence as the original motion or draft resolution would have had if it had not been withdrawn.

Proposals Involving Expenditure

24. A proposal involving expenditure shall not be put up for decision in the absence of a report from the Head of Secretariat on the administrative and financial implications of the proposal.

Participation of Specialized Organizations

25. 1). The IGAD Mediation, the IGAD Special Envoy, Restructured Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission, Representatives of Special Organizations such as the United Nations and the African Union, African Union Ad hoc Committee, Troika, China, Germany, European Union, Japan, IGAD Partners Forum, friends of South Sudan and well-wishers, may be invited to attend, as observers, the meetings of the Committee.

2). The partners may be invited to participate in the Committee deliberations as ex officio.

Records of Meetings

26. 1). Records of the meetings of the Committee shall be prepared by the Secretariat and distributed to the Members as soon as possible.

2). Member of the Committee and the Parties shall inform the Secretariat in writing, within one week after distribution of a record, of any corrections they wish to have made. All corrections received by the Secretariat within the time limit indicated above shall be consolidated in a single corrigendum issued for each meeting of the Committee.

Sub-Committees of the Committee

Establishment of Sub-Committees

27. The Committee may establish such sub committees and appoint such rapporteurs, as it may deem desirable.

Conduct of Business in Sub-Committees

28. Subject to any decision of the Committee and subject to these Rules, the conduct of business in sub-committees shall conform to these Rules.

The Secretariat

Establishment of the Secretariat

29. 1). There shall be established a Secretariat to assist the Committee in executing its mandate.

2). Under the direction of the Head of Secretariat, the Secretariat shall prepare papers on any matter submitted to it by the Committee; take minutes of the Committee meetings; receive, translate, reproduce and distribute documents of the Committee and sub-committees, as the case may be, prepare the monthly reports for the Committee's approval, prepare and circulate summary records of meetings, resolutions adopted by the Committee and any other documentation required; facilitate the interpretation at meetings; have custody of documents of the Committee, and generally perform all other work which the Committee may require.

Appointment of the Head of Secretariat

30. 1). The Head of Secretariat shall be proposed by the Chairperson in consultation with the two Deputy Chairpersons and approved by the Committee, taking into account the diversity of the parties.

2). The Head of Secretariat shall propose an appropriate structure for the Secretariat to be approved by the Committee.

3). The Head of Secretariat shall report to the Committee through the Chairperson.

Recruitment of Temporary Staff

31. The Committee may authorize the Head of Secretariat to engage such cadres of temporary staff as may be necessary for the effective fulfillment of the objectives and purposes of the Committee.

Engagement of Advisors, Experts and Consultants

32. 1). For the effective fulfillment of the objectives and purposes for which it is established, the Committee may authorize the Head of Secretariat to engage such number of advisors, experts and consultants as it may require.

2). The advisors, experts and consultants engaged under paragraph (1) shall:

a) be engaged in their individual capacities and in recognition of their personal expertise and competences in specific areas,

b) be impartial and reflect the diversity of the Committee, and

c) be engaged on such terms and conditions as the Committee may determine.

Expenses and Allowances

33. 1). The Committee shall approve payments for reasonable travel and accommodation expenses incurred by the Members for attending any Committee Meeting from the NPTC Fund. Such expenses shall be paid or reimbursed in accordance with the Rules Governing the Management of the NPTC Fund.

2). The Committee shall determine whether it may be necessary to make provisions for payment of allowances to the Members of the Committee for the

duration of the Committee and where the Committee resolves to pay such allowances to the Members, it shall decide the quantum and frequency thereof.

3). There shall be records of any such expenditure as provided for in the Rules Governing the Management of the NPTC Fund.

Amendment of the Rules

34. These Rules may be amended, subject to the provisions of the R-ARCSS, by consensus of the Members of the Committee.

Overriding Authority of the R-ARCSS

35. In the event of any conflict between any provision of these Rules and any provision of the R-ARCSS, the provisions of the R-ARCSS shall prevail.

RULES OF PROCEDURE GOVERNING MANAGEMENT OF THE NATIONAL PRE-TRANSITIONAL COMMITTEE (NPTC) FUND AND ACCOUNTS

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9. *Procedures for Incurring Expenditure*
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11. *Resource Mobilization*
12. *Final Financial Report*
13. *Bank Balances Upon Completion of the Committee Mandate*

RULES GOVERNING THE MANAGEMENT OF THE FUNDS OF THE NATIONAL PRE-TRANSITIONAL COMMITTEE

ARTICLE 1.4.8 OF THE R-ARCSS

Pursuant to the provisions of Article 1.4.8 of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan, the following Rules that shall govern the Operations of the National Pre-Transitional Committee Fund are hereby adopted and promulgated.

Finances of the NPTC

Composition and Objective of the Fund

1. (1) All funds, monies, or other finances appropriated to or otherwise intended for use of the Committee by the Ministry of Finance and Planning of the Incumbent TGoNU as provided for under Article 1.4.7.1 of the R-ARCSS.

(2) All funds, monies or other finances received by the Committee in the form of grants, gifts, donations and bequests for the use of executing the mandate of the National Pre-Transitional Committee.

(3) The Fund shall not be managed, administered, or disbursed for any other purpose except in accordance with the purposes of the Committee as provided for in these Rules and the relevant laws governing public finance management in the Republic of South Sudan.

Accounts of the Fund

2. (1) The Fund shall be held in two principal bank accounts:

(*a*) NPTC Fund Account to be opened in a bank that the Committee shall appoint;

(*b*) NPTC Partners Fund Account to be opened in a bank that the Committee may appoint:

Provided that nothing in this paragraph shall prevent the Committee from establishing more than one Partners Fund Account where it is necessary for the effective performance of its functions under the Act.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), before establishing any bank account, the Committee shall record a formal resolution authorizing the opening of such account.

(3) There shall be deposited into the NPTC Fund Account such monies as have been appropriated by the Ministry of Finance and Planning of the Incumbent TGoNU.

(4) There shall be deposited into the NPTC Partners Fund Account all monies received by the Committee in the form of grants, gifts, donations and bequests other than those specifically required to be deposited into the NPTC Fund Account.

Interest Earned from the Fund

3. Any interest earned from any of the NPTC Accounts shall unless otherwise specified by the contributor to the fund, be rolled over into the principal sum held in the relevant Fund Account.

Audit and Examination of the Fund

4. 1). The Committee may, if requested by the Ministry of Finance and Planning of the Incumbent TGoNU or any other person or agency which might have made a contribution to any of the accounts of the Fund, order an examination or independent enquiry into the accounts of the Fund.

2). the cost for conducting the audit shall be met by the Ministry of Finance and Planning of the Incumbent TGoNU, person or agency requesting for the audit.

Management Of The Fund

5. 1). The Head of Secretariat shall be responsible for the day-to-day management of the Fund and under supervision of the Committee, shall ensure that the provisions of these Rules are complied with;

2). Specifically, the Head of Secretariat shall ensure that:

(*a*) a proper income and expenditure account is prepared and presented to the Committee at intervals of every month;

(*b*) books of account and all other relevant documents are available for inspection by any member or other parties entitled to inspect them; and

Expenditure from the Fund

6. 1). The Head of Secretariat shall prepare and the Committee shall approve a comprehensive estimate of its expenditure on a monthly basis and such estimate shall specify:

(*a*) the line items of expenditure which the Committee expects to incur during that period;

(*b*) the specific Fund Account or Accounts out of which each line item is to be funded;

(*c*) the source or sources from which the monies drawn from a Fund Account supporting that line item are derived; and

(*d*) the projected cash flow for that period.

2). All expenditure of the Committee other than that required to be met from any particular Fund Account shall be charged to the NPTC Fund Account.

Approval of Payments from the Fund

7. 1). The Committee shall approve all the payments of monies from the accounts of the NPTC Fund accounts.

2). The Chairperson or any of the Deputy Chairpersons shall authorize the Head of Secretariat to withdraw monies from the accounts of the NPTC Fund as approved by the Committee.

Signatories to the Fund

8. 1). The signatories to all Fund Accounts shall be the Head of Secretariat and three members of staff of the Secretariat approved by the Committee.

2). All withdrawals of monies from the Fund Account shall carry the signature of the Head of Secretariat or Head of Finance of the Secretariat and that of any one of the signatories designated in paragraph 1.

Procedure for Incurring Expenditure

9. The following procedure shall be followed in respect of any expenditure to be incurred out of any of the Fund Accounts —

(*a*) Only the Committee shall have power to commit or incur expenditure out of any Fund Account;

(*b*) Payments shall be made by way of vouchers prepared by a member of staff of the Committee other than the Head of Secretariat and certified by the Head of Secretariat;

(*c*) No purchase orders shall be committed or issued without prior confirmation of funding in respect of that particular expenditure;

(*d*) All cash books shall be written up and balanced daily;

(*e*) bank reconciliation shall be prepared and received monthly; and

(*f*) any advances issued to any Committee member or member of staff of the Committee shall be surrendered fully before any subsequent advance is issued to the same member of staff.

Procurement Procedures

10. All procurement by or on behalf of the Committee shall be made in accordance with the provisions of the relevant public procurement and public finance management laws of the Republic of South Sudan.

Resource Mobilization

11. The Committee shall work with the IGAD Mediation, IGAD Special Envoy and other partners in the mobilization of resources for the Committee from sources to be identified and agreed upon by the parties and the stakeholders.

Final Financial Report

12. 1). The Committee, through the Head of Secretariat shall make monthly financial reports to the President of the Republic of South Sudan and to the Parties.

2). Thirty days to the expiry of the mandate of the Committee the Chairman shall, in a report, give an account and status of the finances of the Fund to the parties and stakeholders.

Bank Balances Upon Completion of the Committee Mandate

13. All the funds, monies, or other finances held in the accounts of the NPTC Fund accounts shall be settled as follows:

1). Finances in the NPTC Fund Account shall revert to the Ministry of Finance and Planning.

2). Finances in the NPTC Partners Fund Account shall be utilized as advised by the contributing partners in consultation with the Committee.

3). Any assets of the Committee whether fixed or movable, shall accrue to the R-TGoNU upon the dissolution of the Committee.

MEMBERS PRESENT DURING ADOPTION OF THESE RULES

1. HON. TUT GATLUAK MANIME	CHAIRPERSON
2. HON. HENRY DILHA ILOYA ODWAR	DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON
3. MR. GABRIEL CHANGSON CHANG	DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON
4. HON. DR. MARTIN ELIA LOMURO	MEMBER
5. HON. MICHAEL MAKUEI LUETH	MEMBER
6. HON. DR. DHIEU MATHOK DIING	MEMBER
7. HON. AWUT DENG ACUIL	MEMBER
8. HON. DENG ALOR KUOL	MEMBER
9. MR. PUOT KANG CHOL	MEMBER
10. MR. PETER MAYEN MAJONGDIT	MEMBER

United Nations S/2018/1014

Security Council

Distr.: General
15 November 2018

Original: English

Letter dated 7 November 2018 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

Pursuant to Security Council resolutions 1575 (2004), 1639 (2005), 1722 (2006), 1785 (2007), 1845 (2008), 1895 (2009), 1948 (2010), 2019 (2011), 2074 (2012), 2123 (2013), 2183 (2014), 2247 (2015), 2315 (2016) and 2384 (2017), I have the honour to convey the attached letters dated 8 June and 29 October 2018 from the Vice-President of the European Commission and High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Federica Mogherini, transmitting the forty-fifth and the forty-sixth reports on the activities of the European Union Military Operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (see annexes I and II). The reports cover the periods from 1 March to 31 August 2017 and from 1 September 2017 to 28 February 2018, respectively.

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter and its annexes to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) António **Guterres**

18-19498 (E) 261118

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Annex I

In accordance with Security Council resolutions 1575 (2004), 1639 (2005), 1722 (2006), 1785 (2007), 1845 (2008), 1895 (2009), 1948 (2010), 2019 (2011), 2074 (2012), 2123 (2013), 2183 (2014), 2247 (2015) and 2315 (2016), please find enclosed the forty-fifth report on Operation Althea to the Council (see enclosure).

(*Signed*) Federica **Mogherini**

Enclosure

Report of the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy on the activities of the European Union Military Operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

I. Introduction

1. The present report covers the period from 1 March 2017 to 31 August 2017.

2. The Security Council, in its resolutions 1575 (2004), 1639 (2005), 1722 (2006), 1785 (2007), 1845 (2008), 1895 (2009), 1948 (2010), 2019 (2011), 2074 (2012), 2123 (2013), 2183 (2014), 2247 (2015) and 2315 (2016), requested that Member States, acting through or in cooperation with the European Union, report to the Council on the activities of the European Union Military Operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUFOR) at least at six-monthly intervals. This is the forty-fifth such report.

II. Political background

3. Following a period of positive developments motivated by the prospect of the accession of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the European Union, the progress of institutional reforms in the country has slowed down since April 2017, with a marked increase in political positioning and infighting as general elections scheduled for October 2018 approach.

4. Political elites and parties at all levels of government have already entered into a pre-electoral campaign posture. The previously strongly voiced enthusiasm among political leaders for advancing Bosnia and Herzegovina on its European Union path is being eclipsed by entrenched interests, short-termism and divisive politicking. The governing coalitions at both State and federation levels are increasingly fractious and risk falling apart. In addition, electoral reform, which is required to move the country towards European standards, thereby improving the democratic processes of future elections, remains outstanding. Furthermore, the urgent adoption, through dialogue, of limited election reform following the December 2016 ruling by the Constitutional Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina concerning specific electoral provisions on the Federation House of Peoples is key to preventing uncertainty over the conduct and the implementation of the results of the upcoming 2018 general elections. While accession to the European Union remains the stated strategic goal of Bosnia and Herzegovina for all significant political actors, maintaining their power base remains more important, especially in the run-up to the elections. Nevertheless, the vast majority of citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina still look to the European Union as the only option for a better future. Other unresolved electoral issues, however, could also have a negative impact on the political situation.

5. During the reporting period, there was a positive dynamic in regional cooperation, marked in particular by some progress towards economic integration in the region, which culminated in the adoption of an action plan at the Western Balkans summit, held in Trieste, Italy, on 12 July 2017 to create a regional economic area.

6. Bosnia and Herzegovina continued to make some progress, albeit slow, in pursuit of its application for European Union membership. The work on the questionnaire addressed to Bosnia and Herzegovina by the European Commission has stimulated cooperation at a technical and administrative level. Thirty-six working

groups, under rotating State and entity chairs, began to meet productively as of June 2017 in order to harmonize the draft replies to the 3,242 questions.[1]

III. Security situation

7. While political antagonisms continued to be a source of tension within Bosnia and Herzegovina, the security situation in the country remained calm and stable overall. During the reporting period, while there was no threat to a safe and secure environment, stability has not been entrenched owing to several remaining internal and external factors of concern. These factors are directly and indirectly related to security and include divisive rhetoric, radicalization, social inequality, unemployment, risk of terrorism, returning foreign fighters, organized crime, external influences and growing political instability.

8. Although technically capable of addressing threats to law and order and maintaining a safe and secure environment in their own areas of responsibility, the 16 law enforcement agencies at the level of the State, the entities, the Brcko District and the cantons remain deficient when it comes to inter-agency engagement. Their effectiveness continues to be hampered by a lack of cooperation and coordination. Moreover, notwithstanding the unifying efforts of the defence reform, the armed forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina remain de facto divided, and the authority of the chain of command is still challenged by political interference.

IV. European Union Military Operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina activities

9. During the reporting period, EUFOR continued to deliver on its mandate in accordance with the relevant Security Council resolutions. Operation Althea remained effective in fulfilling its executive mandate, namely, to support Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities in maintaining a safe and secure environment, while serving as a deterrent against the resurgence of conflict. While retaining its executive mandate, the main effort of Operation Althea continued to focus on the capacity-building and training of the armed forces.

10. The effectiveness and sustainability of the efforts of EURFOR with regard to capacity-building and training are reaching their limits. While there have been some significant achievements, the extent of the beneficial effect of capacity-building and training on the armed forces is held back by a number of issues affecting them, notably the lack of proper equipment, materiel and resources; the high fluctuation of personnel; a weak, ethnically based personnel management system; the large amount of resources dedicated to guarding and managing the obsolete surplus of weapons and ammunition; and the lack of a truly effective management mechanism to synchronize, align or even de-conflict the efforts of the European Union, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, international organizations and other bilateral training initiatives.

11. The implementation of the ammunition, weapons and explosives disposal programme is a key component of a safe and secure environment. By making appropriate use of the authority granted to it through Security Council resolutions, EUFOR continued to be well placed to provide technical support and maintain pressure on the Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities to pursue the conclusion of their master plan for the disposal programme (developed with the support of EUFOR).

[1] Bosnia and Herzegovina submitted the replies to the questionnaire on 28 February 2018.

During the reporting period, the Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities did make progress in that regard, albeit slow.

12. The level of progress in the locally owned mine-action sector has slowed down considerably over the past years. Fulfilling its monitoring obligations under the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Annexes thereto, EUFOR also acts as the European Union delegation's effective situational awareness provider on the progress in demining in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In 2016, both EUFOR/the European Union delegation and the Bosnia and Herzegovina State auditors independently assessed the failure of the current Bosnia and Herzegovina mine action strategy, highlighting alarming shortcomings of a systemic and political nature as the main obstacles. A new strategy is being prepared to support a request by Bosnia and Herzegovina for an extension of its current deadline of 2019 under the obligations of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction until 2025. To support the Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities (the Ministry of Civil Affairs and the Bosnia and Herzegovina Mine Action Centre), the new strategy will be preceded by a European Union-financed re-survey of the "suspected hazardous area", to be completed by the end of 2019 in order to establish a credible and feasible end date for the demining process. Given its unique authority in this matter, under Security Council resolutions, EUFOR is expected to accompany the re-survey project and the planning and implementation of the new strategy.

13. Notwithstanding the efforts of EUFOR and the broader international community, Bosnia and Herzegovina remains far from fulfilling the entire range of its international obligations and is unable to fully exploit the support offered by international actors.

V. Outlook

14. The period ahead will be of key importance for the future development of Bosnia and Herzegovina, with general elections scheduled for October 2018. The campaigning is already under way for the elections and may provide pretexts for political leaders to again postpone vital reforms. Political stagnation on the implementation of important reforms and unresolved electoral issues could therefore pose a serious risk. Delivering on further European Union oriented reforms and completing the work necessary for a future European Commission Opinion on the European Union membership application of Bosnia and Herzegovina will remain essential. Political uncertainty and increased tensions may also amplify the risks to a safe and secure environment in the run-up to and during the general elections.

15. Against these developments, Operation Althea continues to adapt and evolve, bearing in mind that stability in Bosnia and Herzegovina is not entrenched owing to several remaining internal and external factors of concern.

Annex II

In accordance with Security Council resolutions1575 (2004), 1639 (2005), 1722 (2006), 1785 (2007), 1845 (2008), 1895 (2009), 1948 (2010), 2019 (2011), 2074 (2012), 2123 (2013), 2183 (2014), 2247 (2015) and 2315 (2016), please find enclosed the forty-sixth report on Operation Althea to the Council (see enclosure).

(*Signed*) Federica **Mogherini**

Enclosure

Report of the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy on the activities of the European Union Military Operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

I. Introduction

1. The present report covers the period from 1 September 2017 to 28 February 2018.

2. The Security Council, in its resolutions 1575 (2004), 1639 (2005), 1722 (2006), 1785 (2007), 1845 (2008), 1895 (2009), 1948 (2010), 2019 (2011), 2074 (2012), 2123 (2013), 2183 (2014), 2247 (2015), 2315 (2016) and 2384 (2017), requested that Member States, acting through or in cooperation with the European Union, report to the Council on the activities of the European Union Military Operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUFOR) at least at six-monthly intervals. This is the forty-sixth such report.

II. Security situation

3. The security situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina remained calm and stable overall, and there was no threat to a safe and secure environment during the reporting period. Stability, however, has not been entrenched owing to several remaining internal and external factors of concern. These factors are directly and indirectly related to security and include an increase in divisive rhetoric, also ahead of the upcoming elections, radicalization, social inequality, unemployment, risk of terrorism, returning foreign fighters, organized crime, external influences and growing political instability. Concerns were raised about the appearance of (unarmed) organized groups unconnected to official security or defence structures, as well as on the procurement of weapons for the Republika Srpska police. Although technically capable of addressing threats to law and order and maintaining a safe and secure environment in their own areas of responsibility, the 16 law enforcement agencies remain deficient when it comes to inter-agency engagement.

III. European Union Military Operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina activities

4. During the reporting period, EUFOR continued to fulfil its executive mandate, in accordance with the relevant Security Council resolutions, and provide support to the Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities in maintaining a safe and secure environment, while serving as a deterrent against a return to conflict.

5. EUFOR continued to provide the armed forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina with capacity-building and both individual and combined (collective) training, alongside the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). In 2017, EUFOR conducted a small percentage of the total individual training received by the armed forces. The majority was delivered through bilateral activities.[1] EUFOR had initially conducted train-the-trainer courses, which have now resulted in the armed forces conducting such individual training themselves (under EUFOR mentoring and monitoring). In the area

[1] To date, Bosnia and Herzegovina has defence cooperation agreements with 23 countries. In 2016, 270 bilateral training activities were held. The report for 2017 has not been released, but the figure could be even higher. EUFOR supported 6 per cent of all capacity-building and training activities in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

of combined (collective) training, six events were conducted throughout 2017 between the EUFOR multinational battalion and the armed forces. The training was aimed primarily at addressing the increase in the interoperability between EUFOR and the armed forces and improving the latter's overall capacities.

6. A strategic review of Operation Althea was conducted and presented to the European Union member States in November 2017. As a result of that process, the member States decided, on the basis of military assessment and advice, to refocus Operation Althea on its executive mandate and to phase out, by the end of 2018, those elements of capacity-building and training that had reached their limits and were no longer necessary (individual training), while the combined (collective training) provided by the EUFOR multinational battalion would continue. EUFOR tasks will remain under regular review by the Security Council, notably through the next strategic review, scheduled for 2019.

7. The eradication of landmines and other explosive remnants of war within Bosnia and Herzegovina remains far from completion, with 1,058 km^2 (approximately 2.2 per cent of the total country size) still classified as a suspected hazardous area, containing some 79,000 mines still requiring clearance. During the reporting period, EUFOR continued to deliver on its task of monitoring the clearing of minefields and obstacles, in line with the provisions of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Annexes thereto.[2] This task is conducted with a small team of five individuals (two military personnel and three locally hired civilians). To reduce the risk of mine incidents, the17 liaison and observation teams of EUFOR continued to provide mine risk education to local communities and schools.[3] It was also decided that the European Commission, through the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace, would support a strategic reset of the demining effort in three phases, beginning in March 2018 with a resurvey project, in support of the goal of a mine-free Bosnia and Herzegovina by 2025.[4] EUFOR will contribute to the project oversight. Its powers, under the General Framework Agreement, will be useful in monitoring and mentoring its implementation and provide the donor community with strategic advice and technical monitoring on further demining projects in the framework of the new Bosnia and Herzegovina mine action strategy for the period 2018–2025.

8. EUFOR continued to oversee the ammunition, weapons and explosives storage facilities and the movement of them,[5] in cooperation with other international partners

[2] Bosnia and Herzegovina has been responsible for demining since 2012, with EUFOR retaining the right to monitor, mentor, advise and liaise with demining activities. Articles VI.3e of annex 1-A of the General Framework Agreement explicitly tasks EUFOR to "monitor the clearing of minefields and obstacles". EUFOR does not conduct clearance itself, although it maintains a limited capability to conduct minor clearance for force protection and freedom of movement reasons.

[3] In 2017, EUFOR provided 17,786 people in Bosnia and Herzegovina with mine risk education, giving them training on how to recognize mine risks and what to do if they believe they are in a minefield. Liaison and observation teams also held 3,298 formal meetings with key leaders in their respective areas, took part in 1,907 informal meetings with local people and attended 695 public events.

[4] The current deadline for Bosnia and Herzegovina (under the obligations contained in the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction) is to be free of mines and explosive remnants of war by 2019. This deadline is clearly unachievable. It is understood that the Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities will request the extension of this deadline until 2025.

[5] The responsibility to dispose ammunition, weapons and explosives surpluses in Bosnia and Herzegovina was transferred to the Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities in 2007, but EUFOR retained, under its executive mandate, the right to observe, monitor and inspect any facility or activity that may have military capability, and specifically to ensure compliance with the relevant regulations under the General Framework Agreement (annex 1-A, arts. VI.6 and VI.9c).

(the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)), in order to ensure compliance with the requirements of the General Framework Agreement. EUFOR also continued to support and coordinate with the Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities on the implementation of the ammunitions, weapons and explosives master plan (developed with the support of EUFOR). In 2017, some 4,128 tons of ammunition and explosives were inspected, leaving 685 tons to be inspected by the end of 2018. During the reporting period, the Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities did make significant progress. As at 31 December 2017, there were 16,100 tons of ammunition still stored in 12 sites throughout the country, with an estimated 8,000 tons to be disposed of in 2018 and 2019. In July 2017, the European Union assistance to stockpile management, technical support and ammunition surplus reduction project was launched to ensure close cooperation between local authorities (the Ministry of Defence and the armed forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina) and partners in the international community (the European Union, EUFOR, OSCE, UNDP and the United States of America), and which is designed to contribute to the disposal of approximately 3,000 tons of unsafe and unstable ammunition. With regard to small arms and light weapons, 62,000 weapons have to be marked and registered, while the amount for disposal[6] (as part of the ammunition, weapons and explosives master plan) has to be defined by the Bosnia and Herzegovina Ministry of Defence. The first phase, namely, the creation of the legal framework, was completed in December 2017. The second phase, namely, the preparation and marking and registration of small arms and light weapons, commenced in November 2017 and should be completed by the end of 2019. The third phase, which is the complete disposal of the small arms and light weapons surplus, is scheduled to be completed by the end of 2020. All other activities regarding safety, security and training as part of the ammunition, weapons and explosives master plan are ongoing.

9. EUFOR conducted two exercises during the reporting period. One was a planning exercise held in November 2017 for the command elements of all designated reserve forces, while the other was a large-scale exercise conducted in October 2017, which brought together EUFOR, NATO/European Union reserves, the armed forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina and, for the first time, Bosnia and Herzegovina law enforcement agencies to train for the maintenance of a safe and secure environment in a realistic scenario.

IV. Outlook

10. Operation Althea continues to adapt and evolve, bearing in mind that stability in Bosnia and Herzegovina is not entrenched owing to several remaining internal and external factors of concern. In the period ahead, EUFOR will discontinue parts of its capacity-building and training activities that are no longer needed and refocus on its core mandate, which is to support Bosnia and Herzegovina authorities in maintaining a safe and secure environment, including during the upcoming election period. EUFOR tasks will remain under regular review by the Security Council, notably through the next strategic review, scheduled for 2019.

[6] Disposal includes destruction, sales and donations.

United Nations S/2018/1015

Security Council

Distr.: General
13 November 2018

Original: English

Letter dated 12 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the assessment of the work of the Security Council for the month of April 2018 during the presidency of the Republic of Peru (see annex).

The assessment was prepared by the Permanent Mission of Peru to the United Nations, in accordance with paragraph 136 of the note by the President of the Security Council of 30 August 2017 (S/2017/507), following consultations with other members of the Council.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Gustavo **Meza-Cuadra**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations

18-19253 (E) 201118

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Annex to the letter dated 12 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Assessment of the work of the Security Council during the presidency of Peru (April 2018)

Introduction

In April 2018, under the presidency of Peru, the Security Council held 27 public meetings, 10 consultations of the whole and one private meeting. During the consultations of the whole, three additional topics were discussed under the item "Other matters". The Council adopted five resolutions and agreed on two presidential statements and 10 statements to the press.

Among the public meetings were a high-level briefing and three open debates. On 25 April, the Council held a high-level briefing on peacebuilding and sustaining peace, chaired by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Peru, Néstor Popolizio Bardales. On 16 April, the Council held an open debate on preventing sexual violence in conflict through empowerment, gender equality and access to justice. On 23 April, the Council held an open debate on the theme "Maintenance of international peace and security: youth, peace and security". On 26 April, the Council held its quarterly open debate on the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question.

On 21 and 22 April, members of the Security Council travelled to Backakra, Sweden, to the private estate of the late Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld, where they held their nineteenth annual retreat with the Secretary-General.

From 28 April to 2 May, a Council mission jointly led by the Kuwait, Peru and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, visited Bangladesh and Myanmar. On April 27, as they travelled, members of the Council met in Kuwait City with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kuwait, Sheikh Sabah Khalid Al Hamad Al Sabah.

In accordance with the Council practice, Peru began its presidency with the presentation of the provisional programme of work of the Council for the month, which was adopted on 2 April at the Council's consultations of the whole.

Also on 2 April, Peru convened informal meetings with the wider United Nations membership and the United Nations Correspondents Association to present the adopted programme of work, as it did on 5 April with the World Federation of United Nations Associations. Finally, on 26 April, Peru, jointly with Ethiopia and Sweden, convened a wrap-up informal meeting with the wider United Nations membership.

On 19 April, members of the Council observed a minute of silence and rendered homage to their friend and colleague, the Permanent Representative of Côte d'Ivoire, Bernard Tanoh-Boutchoué, who passed away on 18 April 2018. On the same day, the Council issued a statement was to the press (SC/13309) expressing mourning for the loss and the condolences of the members of the Council.

Africa

Burundi

On 5 April, the Council agreed on a presidential statement expressing, inter alia, deep concern over the political situation in Burundi, the slow progress of the

inter-Burundian dialogue and the lack of engagement by the Government in that process (S/PRST/2018/7). The Council also welcomed and supported the renewed commitment by the African Union and the East African Community to the peaceful resolution of the political situation in Burundi through an inclusive dialogue based on the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement for Burundi.

Central African Republic

On 3 and 11 April, the Council issued statements to the press condemning attacks against the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) in Tagbara by suspected anti-Balaka elements, killing 1 Mauritanian peacekeeper and injuring 11 others, and in Bangui by elements of armed groups, killing 1 Rwandan peacekeeper and injuring 8 others (SC/13275 and SC/13291, respectively).

On 12 April, the Council held consultations of the whole on the security situation in the Central African Republic, at which members were briefed by Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic and Head of MINUSCA, Parfait Onanga-Anyanga.

Great Lakes region

On April 10, the Council held a briefing on the situation on the Great Lakes region. The Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region, Said Djinnit, introduced the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Region (S/2018/209). He urged the Council to remain united in its support for the implementation of the 31 December 2016 political agreement among Congolese political leaders, under which elections would be held on 23 December 2018. He also encouraged the Council to keep urging the parties concerned to work towards the common goal of peace, stability and sustainable development for the region and its populations.

The Permanent Representative of the Republic of the Congo, Raymond Serge Balé, as Chair of the Regional Oversight Mechanism of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework, highlighted the fact that the task at hand was to help the Democratic Republic of the Congo regain stability so that it could become a catalyst for lasting peace in the wider region, and called upon the international community to mobilize around regional efforts with strengthened coordination and cooperation.

The Council issued a statement to the press (SC/13287) in which it, inter alia, reaffirmed its support for the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework and for the Special Envoy, while calling for further engagement and regional coordination to address the remaining challenges.

Guinea-Bissau

On 19 April, the Council held consultations of the whole on the situation in Guinea-Bissau under the item "Other matters". The Council was briefed by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Guinea-Bissau and Head of Mission for the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS), Modibo Touré.

Liberia

On 19 April, the Council held a briefing on the situation in Liberia. The briefers were the Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions, Alexander Zouev, who introduced the final progress report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) (S/2018/344); the Deputy

Permanent Representative of Sweden, Irina Schoulgin Nyoni, on behalf of the Chair of the Liberia configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission; and the chief executive officer of the non-governmental organization Liberty & Justice, Chid Liberty.

The Council agreed on a presidential statement commending the achievements and progress made by the people and Government of Liberia since the deployment of UNMIL in 2003 (S/PRST/2018/8). With the completion of the UNMIL mandate more than 14 years later, on 30 March 2018, it was stressed that the United Nations would remain an important partner for the country as it continued to consolidate peace and stability in the future.

Mali

On 5, 6 and 15 April, the Council issued statements to the press condemning attacks against the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), in Aguelhok, in which 2 Chadian peacekeepers were killed and 10 others were injured; in Gao, in which 1 Nigerien peacekeeper was killed; and in Timbuktu, in which 1 Burkinabe peacekeeper was killed and others, including Malian civilians, MINUSMA personnel and members of the French forces, were injured (SC/13281, SC/13283 and SC/13298, respectively).

On 11 April, the Council held a briefing on the situation in Mali. The Council was briefed by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Mali and Head of MINUSMA, Annadif Mahamat Saleh, who introduced the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Mali (S/2018/273), and by the Permanent Representative of Sweden, Olof Skoog, in his capacity as Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2374 (2017) concerning Mali. The Special Representative highlighted that, despite deterioration in the security situation that had claimed the lives of civilians and United Nations peacekeepers, the peace process in Mali was making headway along a timetable leading to elections later in 2018, in accordance with the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali. The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Mali, Tiéman Hubert Coulibaly, highlighted the new momentum in the peace process and reiterated the commitment of his Government to see it through as well as its determination to hold transparent, inclusive and credible elections.

On 18 April, the Council held consultations of the whole on the security situation on Mali and was briefed by the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Jean-Pierre Lacroix.

Somalia

On 4 April, the Council issued a statement to the press (SC/13277) condemning the terrorist attack perpetrated on 1 April by Al-Shabaab in Shabelle Hoose, Somalia, against the Ugandan contingent of the African Union Mission in Somalia, in which a number of soldiers were killed and injured. On 19 April, members of the Council held their monthly luncheon with the Secretary-General, which was devoted to informally discussing the situation in Somalia.

Sudan/South Sudan

On 12 April, the Council held consultations of the whole, under the item "Other matters", on the renewal of the mandate for the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA). The Council was briefed by the Assistant-Secretary General for Peacekeeping Operations, Bintou Keita. On 13 April, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 2411 (2018), by which it extended for a 10-day period a set of modifications to the mandate of UNISFA, which enabled the Mission to support

government efforts to normalize relations in the contested border region. On 24 April, after being briefed in consultations of the whole by the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Jean-Pierre Lacroix, and by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sudan and South Sudan, Nicholas Haysom, the Council unanimously adopted its resolution 2412 (2018), by which it extended until 15 October 2018 the modification to the mandate of the Mission and decided that it would be the final such extension unless the parties took several measurable steps related to the contested border area.

Western Sahara

On 5 April, the Council held a private meeting with the troop- and police-contributing countries to the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO), at which Council members were briefed by the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Bintou Keita. Following an exchange of views, the Council issued an official communiqué (see S/PV.8222).

On 17 April, the Council held consultations of the whole on the mandate renewal for MINURSO. The Council was briefed by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara and Head of MINURSO, Colin Stewart, and by the Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Tayé-Brook Zerihoun. On 27 April, the Council adopted resolution 2414 (2018) by a recorded vote of 12 to none, with 3 abstentions (China, Ethiopia and the Russian Federation), by which it extended the mandate of MINURSO until 31 October 2018. All 15 members of the Council made statements after the vote.

Americas

Colombia

On 19 April, the Council held a briefing followed by consultations of the whole on the theme "Identical letters dated 19 January 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council (S/2016/53)". In the open chamber, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Colombia and Head of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia, Jean Arnault, introduced the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia (S/2018/279). He highlighted that, on 11 March, millions of Colombians had turned out to vote in elections that were a clear step forward in the country's transition from conflict to peace.

The members of the Council expressed their support for the peace process and the Mission, referring to ongoing efforts and remaining challenges in the light of the new political scenario. The Vice-President of Colombia, Oscar Naranjo, reiterated on behalf of his Government that the challenges reported by the Secretary-General were being addressed as a matter of priority, including the need to safeguard the lives, integrity and freedom of community leaders and human rights defenders throughout the territory.

At consultations of the whole, the Council members continued their consideration of the latest developments and of the new political situation, issuing a statement to the press (SC/13310) in which they reiterated their full and unanimous support for the peace process in Colombia and shared the assessment of the Secretary-General set out in his report on the work of the Mission.

Haiti

On 3 April, the Council held a briefing on the question concerning Haiti. The Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Jean-Pierre Lacroix, introduced the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti (MINUJUSTH) (S/2018/241), noting that he had visited Haiti on 14 and 15 March. He reported that the Mission was fully operational and actively implementing its mandate and that it had started to prepare for a transition to a non-peacekeeping presence, on the basis of lessons learned in Haiti and in other contexts.

On 10 April, the Council adopted its resolution 2410 (2018) by a recorded vote of 13 to none, with 2 abstentions (China and the Russian Federation), by which it extended the mandate of MINUJUSTH until 15 April 2019. Statements after the vote were made by the United States of America, the Russian Federation, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, France, the United Kingdom, Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea, the Netherlands, Poland and Peru.

Asia

Afghanistan

On 23 April, the Council issued a statement to the press (SC/13314) condemning the terrorist attack that took place at a voter registration centre in Kabul on 22 April, in which at least 50 people were killed and 100 were injured, for which Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant claimed responsibility.

Mission to Bangladesh and Myanmar

From 28 April to 2 May, members of the Council visited Bangladesh and Myanmar as part of efforts to address the crisis under way since 25 August 2017. The composition of the mission and its terms of reference were communicated to the Secretary-General on 26 April in a letter from the President of the Council (S/2018/391). The mission was jointly led by the Permanent Representatives of Kuwait, Peru and the United Kingdom.

That was the first visit by Council members to Bangladesh and Myanmar. The members were struck by the scale of the humanitarian crisis. In Bangladesh, they visited refugee camps in Cox's Bazar, where they met with Rohingya refugees. The members also met with the Prime Minister, Sheikh Hasina, the Minister of State, Mohammed Shahriar Alam, the Acting Foreign Secretary, M. Khurshed Alam, and the Refugee Relief and Repatriation Commissioner, Mohammed Abul Kalam, along with other senior government officials and representatives of the United Nations country team in Bangladesh.

In Myanmar, members of the Council met with the State Counsellor, Aung San Suu Kyi, Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, the Union Minister for the State Counsellor's Office, U Kyaw Tint Swe, the Union Minister for the Office of the Union Government and National Security Adviser, U Thaung Tun, and the Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Win Myat Aye, in addition to other senior government officials, representatives of the United Nations country team in Myanmar and members of civil society. They also visited northern Rakhine State to observe the situation there.

On 9 May, the Council issued a statement to the press (SC/13331) on the visit to Bangladesh and Myanmar. On 14 May, the Council held a meeting on the theme

"Briefing by the Security Council mission to Bangladesh and Myanmar (28 April to 2 May 2018)".

Middle East

Syrian Arab Republic

On 4 April, the Council held a briefing on the theme "The situation in the Middle East: letter dated 28 March 2018 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2018/283)". The Council was briefed by the Deputy to the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Thomas Markram, on the implementation of its resolution 2118 (2013) on the elimination of the chemical weapons programme of the Syrian Arab Republic. Council members reiterated their condemnations of the use of chemical weapons and their divergent views on how to ensure accountability.

On 9 April, the Council held a briefing on the theme "Threats to international peace and security: the situation in the Middle East". The briefing was convened as an emergency meeting after reports of an alleged chemical weapons attack in Duma, Syrian Arab Republic, on 7 April. The Council was briefed by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria, Staffan de Mistura, and the Deputy to the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Thomas Markram. Briefers and members of the Council reiterated their condemnations of the use of chemical weapons and raised concerns regarding the rapid escalation of international tensions.

On 10 April, Council members voted on three draft resolutions on the situation in the Middle East. The first draft resolution (S/2018/321) was submitted by Canada, France, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States. France, the United States and the Russian Federation made statements before the vote. The draft received 12 votes in favour (Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States), 2 against (Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and the Russian Federation) and 1 abstention (China). It was not adopted, owing to the negative vote of a permanent member of the Council. Statements after the vote were made by the United Kingdom, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Poland, Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and the Netherlands.

The second draft resolution (S/2018/175) was submitted by the Russian Federation. The Russian Federation made a statement before the vote. The draft received 6 votes in favour (Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation), 7 votes against (France, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States) and 2 abstentions (Côte d'Ivoire and Kuwait). It was not adopted, having failed to obtain the required number of votes. The United Kingdom, the United States, China, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Kuwait, Sweden, Kazakhstan and Bolivia (Plurinational State of) made statements after the vote.

The third draft resolution (S/2018/322) was also submitted by the Russian Federation. The Russian Federation and Sweden made statements before the vote, after which the meeting was suspended for the Council to hold consultations of the whole. After the consultations, the draft resolution obtained 5 votes in favour (Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation), 4 against (France, Poland, the United Kingdom and the United States) and 6 abstentions (Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Kuwait, the Netherlands, Peru and Sweden). It was not adopted, having failed to obtain the required number of votes. Statements after the vote were made by the United Kingdom, China, Sweden, Equatorial Guinea, Poland, the United States, Ethiopia, the Russian Federation, Kuwait, Kazakhstan,

France, the Netherlands, Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Peru. The Syrian Arab Republic also made a statement.

On 12 April, the Council held consultations of the whole on the maintenance of international peace and security. The meeting was convened after the escalation of rhetoric on possible unilateral actions in the Syrian Arab Republic in response to the latest allegations of chemical attacks in Duma. The Council was briefed by the Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Mr. Taye-Brook Zerihoun.

On 13 April, the Council held a briefing on the theme "Threats to international peace and security: the situation in the Middle East". In his briefing, the Secretary-General considered that the situation in the Middle East had become a threat to international peace and security and that the Syrian conflict represented the most serious threat to the international peace and security of the day. He expressed outrage at reports of the continued use of chemical weapons; called for a thorough investigation, using impartial, independent and professional expertise; supported the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and its fact-finding mission; stressed the need for accountability; reiterated his deep concerns about the risks of the Council's impasse; and stressed the need to prevent the situation from spiralling out of control. The Syrian Arab Republic also made a statement.

On 14 April, the Council held a briefing on the theme "Threats to international peace and security: the situation in the Middle East". In his briefing, the Secretary-General referred to reports of air strikes conducted the night before by France, the United Kingdom and the United States against three military locations in the Syrian Arab Republic. He called upon all States Members of the United Nations, and the members of the Council in particular, to act in a manner consistent with the Charter of the United Nations and international law, including the norms against chemical weapons. He also stated that there could be no military solution to the crisis and that he had asked his Special Envoy, Staffan de Mistura, to hold consultations to accelerate the political process in the Syrian Arab Republic.

After a discussion in which members of the Council presented divergent views on the latest events, the Council voted on a draft resolution (S/2018/355) submitted by the Russian Federation. The draft resolution received 3 votes in favour (Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China and the Russian Federation), 8 against (Côte d'Ivoire, France, Kuwait, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States) and 4 abstentions (Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan and Peru). The draft resolution was not adopted, having failed to obtain the required number of votes. Statements after the vote were made by Sweden, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, Equatorial Guinea, France, the Netherlands, Kuwait, China, the Russian Federation, Peru and the United Kingdom. The Syrian Arab Republic also made a statement.

On 17 April, the Council held a briefing on the situation in the Middle East that was devoted to the consideration of the humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, in particular in Raqqah and Rukban, as well as in Afrin, Ghutah and Idlib. The Council was briefed by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mark Lowcock. He stressed that the humanitarian response should be urgently augmented.

On 25 April, the Council held a briefing on the situation in the Middle East that was devoted to the humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic. The Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator, Ursula Mueller, introduced the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014), 2258 (2015), 2332 (2016), 2393 (2017) and 2401 (2018) (S/2018/369), and stressed the need to turn pledges of aid into progress on the ground.

The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

On 25 April, the Council held its quarterly open debate on the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question. Council members were briefed by the Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority, Nickolay Mladenov. He warned Council members about escalating tensions, outside interference and growing risks of potentially explosive miscalculations, from Gaza to the Syrian Arab Republic to Yemen, and the implications of such for the rest of the world. He also stated that the Israeli-Palestinian conflict remained a permanent source of oxygen for militants and radicals across the Middle East. During the debate, speakers expressed concerns about deadly incidents at the Gaza-Israel border and urged both parties to stop violence and resume peace talks. Forty-four speakers made statements.

Yemen

On 17 April, the Council held a briefing on the situation in the Middle East that was devoted to Yemen. The Council was briefed by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen, Martin Griffiths, and the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Mark Lowcock. They stressed that the parties to the conflict must return to negotiations or risk escalating the world's worst humanitarian crisis. Members of the Council raised concerns regarding the continued violations of international law and international humanitarian law.

Thematic and other issues

Incident in Salisbury, United Kingdom

On 18 April, the Council held a briefing on the theme "Letter dated 13 March 2018 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2018/218)". Participants addressed the incident that occurred in Salisbury, United Kingdom, on 4 March 2018, which involved the use of a toxic chemical — allegedly a nerve agent — and the poisoning and hospitalization of three individuals as a result. The High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Izumi Nakamitsu, briefed the Council, conveying information provided by OPCW, which had prepared the report given to the United Kingdom on 12 April, identifying the use of toxic agents consistent with those signalled in the initial investigation conducted by the United Kingdom.

Nineteenth Security Council retreat of the Secretary-General

On 21 and 22 April, the annual retreat of the Secretary-General with members of the Council was held in Backakra, Sweden, at the private estate of the late Secretary-General Dag Hammarskjöld. It was hosted by the Permanent Representatives of Peru and Sweden. Following on the revised draft programme transmitted by the Secretary-General in his letter dated 19 April (circulated by the President of the Council on the same day), the first session of the retreat, held on 21 April, was devoted to conflict prevention and peace operations, and the second session, held on 22 April, was devoted to the Syrian Arab Republic. The Secretary-General transmitted a related report with a letter dated 4 May (circulated by the President of the Council on 7 May).

At the conclusion of the retreat, Council members agreed to issue statements to the press on the Syrian Arab Republic, reaffirming the legitimacy and credibility of the political process led by the United Nations, reiterating their commitment to establishing an independent and impartial attribution mechanism on the use of chemical weapons, and welcoming the Secretary-General's commitment to engaging with the Council on those matters.

Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction

On 12 April, the Council held a briefing on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. Members were briefed by the Permanent Representative of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Sacha Sergio Llorentty Soliz, in his capacity as Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004). Members of the Council voiced grave concern over the increasing number of allegations of chemical weapons attacks in recent months.

Peacebuilding and sustaining peace

On 25 April, the Council held a high-level briefing on peacebuilding and sustaining peace, chaired by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Peru, Néstor Popolizio Bardales. The meeting was held in parallel with the high-level event convened on 24 and 25 April by the President of the General Assembly in accordance with General Assembly resolution 70/262 and Security Council resolution 2282 (2016). The Council was briefed by the Secretary-General, by the State Secretary for Regional Affairs and Multilateral Global Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania, Dan Neculăescu, in his capacity as Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission, and by the Commissioner for Peace and Security of the African Union, Smail Chergui. Other high-level participants were the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Sweden, Margot Wallström, and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Côte d'Ivoire, Marcel Amon-Tanoh. The meeting was informed by the report of the Secretary-General on peacebuilding and sustaining peace (S/2018/43) and the letter dated 9 April 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2018/325).

On 26 April, the Council unanimously adopted its resolution 2413 (2018), which was substantively identical to General Assembly resolution 72/276, adopted by Assembly on the same day, on the follow-up to the report of the Secretary-General on peacebuilding and sustaining peace.

Women, peace and security

On 16 April, the Council held an open debate on the theme "Women and peace and security: preventing sexual violence in conflict through empowerment, gender equality and access to justice". The Council was briefed by the Deputy Secretary-General, Amina Mohamed, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Pramila Patten, and senior researcher at Kaladan Press, Razia Sultana. The debate was informed by the report of the Secretary-General on conflict-related sexual violence (S/2018/250) and the letter dated 2 April 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2018/311). Sixty-three speakers made statements at the debate.

Youth, peace and security

On 23 April, the Council held an open debate on the theme "Maintenance of international peace and security: youth, peace and security". The Council was briefed by the Envoy of the Secretary-General on Youth, Jayathma Wickramanayake; the lead author of a progress study on youth, peace and security, Graeme Simpson; a member

of the Advisory Council of the World Young Women Christian Association, Sophia Pierre-Antoine; and the Executive Director of Organisation URU, Kessy Ekomo-Soignet. The meeting was informed by the identical letters dated 2 March 2018 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council (S/2018/86), and the letter dated 6 April 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2018/324). Sixty-six speakers made statements at the debate.

In the light of the open debate, the Council unanimously adopted its resolution 2419 (2018) on 6 June 2018.

United Nations S/2018/1016

Security Council

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The Security Council,

Recalling its previous resolutions and statements on the Central African Republic (CAR), in particular resolutions 2121 (2013), 2127 (2013), 2134 (2014), 2149 (2014), 2181 (2014), 2196 (2015), 2212 (2015), 2217 (2015), 2262 (2016), 2264 (2016), 2281 (2016), 2301 (2016), 2339 (2017), 2387 (2017), 2399 (2018), as well as resolution 2272 (2016), and its Presidential Statements S/PRST/2014/28 of 18 December 2014, S/PRST/2015/17 of 20 October 2015, S/PRST/2016/17 of 16 November 2016, S/PRST/2017/5 of 4 April 2017, S/PRST/2017/9 of 13 July 2017 and S/PRST/2018/14 of 13 July 2018,

Reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of the CAR, and *recalling* the importance of the principles of non-interference, good-neighbourliness and regional cooperation,

Reaffirming the basic principles of peacekeeping, such as consent of the parties, impartiality, and non-use of force, except in self-defence and defence of the mandate, *recognizing* that the mandate of each peacekeeping mission is specific to the need and situation of the country concerned, *underlining* that the mandates that it authorizes are consistent with the basic principles, reiterating that the Security Council expects full delivery of the mandates it authorizes, and *recalling* in this regard its resolution 2436 (2018),

Recalling that the CAR Authorities have the primary responsibility to protect all populations in the CAR in particular from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity and, in this regard, recalling the importance of restoring state authority in all parts of the country,

Expressing deep concern regarding persistent violence perpetrated by armed groups throughout the country in their attempts to forcefully gain control of territory and resources and destabilize the country, as well as the lack of capacity of the national security forces, and the persistence of the root causes of the conflict,

Condemning in the strongest terms incitement to ethnic and religious hatred and violence and the multiple violations of international humanitarian law and the widespread human rights violations and abuses, including those committed against children and those involving sexual and gender-based violence in conflict, committed notably by both ex-Seleka and anti-Balaka elements, and other armed groups, as well as the targeting of civilians from specific communities, resulting in deaths, injuries and displacements,

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Expressing its concern that children have continued to be victims of abuses committed by armed elements of the ex-Seleka and anti-Balaka as well as other armed groups, including the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), and that women and girls continue to be violently targeted and victims of sexual and gender-based violence in the CAR,

Recalling its resolutions on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, including 2286 (2016) and 1894 (2009), its resolutions on Children and Armed Conflict including 2225 (2015) and 2427 (2018) and its resolutions on Women, Peace and Security including 2106 (2013) and 2242 (2015), *welcoming* the ratification by the CAR Authorities of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict on 21 September 2017, *underlining* the importance of its full implementation, and *calling upon* all parties in the CAR to engage with the Special Representative on Children and Armed Conflict and the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict,

Emphasizing that any sustainable solution to the crisis in the CAR should be CAR-owned, including the political process, and should prioritize reconciliation of the Central African people, through an inclusive process that involves men and women of all social, economic, political, religious and ethnic backgrounds, including, those displaced by the crisis,

Recalling the holding of, and local participation in, grassroots consultations throughout the country between 21 January and 8 March 2015, which enabled thousands of people in the CAR to express their views on the future of their country, and the holding and the current relevance of the Bangui Forum in May 2015, during which the Republican Pact for Peace, National Reconciliation and Reconstruction as well as agreements on the principles for disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and repatriation (DDR/R), justice and reconciliation, and security sector reform (SSR), and on the commitment by armed groups to end the recruitment and use of children and to release all children from their ranks, were adopted,

Stressing the urgent and imperative need to end impunity in the CAR and to bring to justice perpetrators of violations of international humanitarian law and of abuses and violations of human rights, including in the context of the peace process led by the African Initiative, *welcoming* in this regard the official launch of investigations by the Special Criminal Court (SCC) and the steps initiated by the Government of the CAR in establishing other transitional justice mechanisms to ensure accountability for past crimes and reparation for victims while promoting national reconciliation, and *underlining* the need to bolster the other national accountability mechanisms as well as the support for the work of the Independent Expert on human rights in the CAR,

Reiterating the primary responsibility of the national authorities to ensure a conducive environment for the effective and independent investigation, prosecution and adjudication of all cases, also emphasizing the need for the CAR government to ensure institutional preparedness to that end,

Recalling the peaceful organization of a constitutional referendum on 13 December 2015 and legislative and presidential elections in December 2015, February and March 2016, as well as the inauguration of the President Faustin-Archange Touadéra on 30 March 2016,

Taking note of the upcoming presidential, legislative and local elections in 2020/2021 and *underlining* the primary responsibility of the Government of the CAR to organize inclusive, free, fair, transparent, credible, peaceful and timely electoral processes, including the full and effective participation of women, and *encouraging*

the CAR authorities, with the support of relevant partners, to promote the participation of IDPs and refugees in accordance with the Constitution of the CAR,

Emphasizing the fact that the current security situation in the CAR provides a conducive environment for transnational criminal activity, such as that involving arms trafficking and the use of mercenaries as well as a potential breeding ground for radical networks,

Reiterating that illicit trade, exploitation and smuggling of natural resources including gold, diamonds, and wildlife poaching and trafficking continues to threaten the peace and stability of the CAR,

Expressing grave concern at the threat to peace and security in the CAR arising from the illicit transfer, destabilizing accumulation and misuse of small arms and light weapons, and the use of such weapons against civilians,

Acknowledging in this respect the important contribution to the peace, stability or security of the CAR, of the Council-mandated sanctions regime renewed by resolution 2399 (2018), including its provisions related to the arms embargo, and its provisions related to individuals or entities designated by the Committee as engaging in or providing support for acts that undermine the peace, stability or security of the CAR,

Expressing concern about reported travel by individuals designated pursuant to UNSC resolution 2127 (2013) and noting the critical importance of effective implementation of the sanctions regime, including the key role that neighbouring States, as well as regional and subregional organizations, can play in this regard and encouraging efforts to further enhance cooperation,

Reiterating its serious concern at the dire humanitarian situation in the CAR and the consequences of the deterioration of the security situation on humanitarian access, *condemning* in the strongest terms attacks against humanitarian workers, and *emphasizing* in particular the current humanitarian needs of more than half of the population of the country and the alarming situation of internally displaced persons (IDPs) and refugees in neighbouring countries, *further expressing concern* at the consequences of the flow of refugees on the situation in countries of the region, and *recalling* the need for Member States to scale up funding to urgently respond to the humanitarian needs in the country identified in the 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan,

Recognizing the adverse effects of climate change, ecological changes and natural disasters, among other factors, on the stability of the Central African Region, including through drought, desertification, land degradation, and food insecurity, and *stressing* the need for adequate risk assessment by the United Nations relating to these factors and for long-term strategies by governments of the Central African Region and the United Nations to support stabilization and build resilience,

Recalling the responsibility of the CAR Authorities to protect and promote the right to freedom of movement of all people in the CAR, including IDPs, without distinction, their freedom to choose where to reside, and to comply with their right to return to their own country or to leave in order to seek asylum in other States and *expressing concern* for the plight of civilians trapped in enclaves with limited access to humanitarian assistance,

Underlining the continued need to support national, and to coordinate in a transparent manner international, efforts towards the transformation of the security sector in the CAR and stressing the crucial role of the Internal Security Forces (ISF) (police and gendarmerie) in the restoration of community security, public safety and the rule of law in the CAR,

Welcoming in this regard the work carried out by the European Union Training Mission in the CAR (EUTM-RCA), as well as the support of other international and regional partners, including France, the Russian Federation and the United States, to provide coherent, transparent, and coordinated support to reform the FACA into multi-ethnic, professional, and representative armed forces, and to the training and the enhancement of capacities of the national security and defence forces, and *encouraging* effective coordination between the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA), EUTM-RCA and other international partners in this regard,

Welcoming the continued role of the United Nations, including the Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA), neighbouring countries, the African Union (AU), the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), the International Conference on the Great Lakes region (ICGLR), as well as the strong engagement of the European Union (EU), and the continued engagement of the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, other international partners and donors, and the Community of Sant'Egidio, in support of the stabilization of the CAR,

Condemning in the strongest terms all attacks, provocations and incitement to violence against MINUSCA contingents and other international forces by armed groups or other perpetrators, *paying tribute to* the personnel of MINUSCA who sacrificed their lives in the service of peace, underlining that attacks targeting peacekeepers may constitute war crimes, reminding all parties of their obligations under international humanitarian law and urging the CAR Authorities to take all possible measures to ensure the arrest and prosecution of perpetrators,

Welcoming in this regard MINUSCA's efforts to protect civilians and to combat armed groups with the success of operation "MBARANGA" in Paoua, launched in January 2018, and other ongoing operations in the country,

Welcoming the commitment of the Secretary-General to enforce strictly his zero-tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA), *noting* the various measures taken by MINUSCA and Troop- and Police-contributing countries (T/PCCs) to combat SEA, which has led to a reduction in reported cases, but still *expressing* grave concern over numerous allegations of SEA reportedly committed by peacekeepers in the CAR, as well as by non-United Nations forces, stressing the urgent need for T/PCCs and, as appropriate, MINUSCA, to promptly investigate those allegations in a credible and transparent manner and for those responsible for such criminal offences or misconduct to be held to account, and further stressing the need to prevent such exploitation and abuse and to improve how these allegations are addressed in line with resolution 2272 (2016),

Noting the presentation of the report on "Improving Security of United Nations Peacekeepers", which highlights the link between the safety and security of peacekeepers and the performance of troops, *recognizing* that fatalities can be a consequence of deficiencies in training, equipment and performance,

Recognizing that institutionalizing a culture of performance in UN peacekeeping will contribute to better delivery of peacekeeping mandates, as well as lead to improvements in the safety and security of peacekeepers, and *welcoming* the work already initiated by the Secretariat in the setting up of a comprehensive and integrated performance policy framework measuring performance based on data collection and analysis,

Welcoming the initiative of the Secretary-General to conduct Special Investigations into performance issues, and *encouraging* the Secretary-General to report on the findings of such investigations and efforts to take collective action to improve peacekeeping operations,

Reiterating its serious concern at the continuing lack of key capabilities for MINUSCA, *stressing* the need to fill gaps in, in particular in the field of military helicopters, and *emphasizing* the utmost importance of improving logistics support to ensure the security and safety of MINUSCA's personnel in that regard,

Stressing the need to implement MINUSCA's mandate, based on the prioritization of tasks, and, when relevant, in a phased manner,

Taking note of the Report of the Secretary-General of 15 October 2018 (S/2018/922) which builds on the findings and recommendations of the independent strategic review of MINUSCA conducted in June-September 2018,

Determining that the situation in the CAR continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

Political process

1. *Reiterates* its support to President Faustin-Archange Touadéra in his efforts to promote lasting peace and stability in the CAR and *calls on* the CAR Authorities to take all the necessary steps, without delay, to advance an inclusive dialogue with armed groups and promote national reconciliation, the extension of State authority, the reform of the security sector, the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) process, and the fight against impunity, as the highest priorities;

2. *Reaffirms* its support to the African Initiative for Peace and Reconciliation in the CAR (African Initiative) and its roadmap that was adopted by the ministerial conference held in Libreville on 17 July 2017 by the CAR Authorities, the AU, the ECCAS, the ICGLR with the support of Angola, Chad, Congo and Gabon, *reaffirms* that the African Initiative and its roadmap constitute the only framework for a comprehensive political solution in the CAR, as agreed by the CAR Authorities and under their leadership, and *calls upon* all actors to support the African Initiative in its implementation of the peace process;

3. *Welcomes* the progress made by the Panel of Facilitators of the African Initiative, *underscores* the urgent need for further progress in an ambitious and inclusive dialogue between the CAR authorities and the armed groups, as well as all segments of society, promoting the full and effective participation of women, in order to reach a comprehensive political agreement without delay, and *encourages* President Faustin-Archange Touadéra to cement and broaden national ownership of the peace process;

4. *Welcomes* the high-level ministerial meeting on the CAR that was held on 27 September 2018 in the margins of the 73rd ordinary session of the General Assembly of the United Nations, co-chaired by the CAR, the United Nations, the AU and the ECCAS, *reiterates* the need to strengthen coordination of all efforts and initiatives under the leadership of the African Union in support of the African Initiative for peace and reconciliation in the CAR, *welcomes* in this regard the intent of the United Nations and the AU to appoint a joint Special Envoy to support the peace process by ensuring sustained and coherent regional engagement and support to the peace process, working in close cooperation with all partners of the Central African Republic, as needed and without prejudice of the respective mandates of MINUSCA and UNOCA, *further welcomes* the call for MINUSCA to play a greater political role in the African Initiative and the decision to include the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) as a full member of the Panel of Facilitators, and *further calls on* Member States represented in the Panel of Facilitators to reinforce their financial support to the African Initiative and

international partners to continue to provide adequate financial support to the political process;

5. *Emphasizes* the importance of the role and high-level commitment of the AU, the ECCAS, the ICGLR, and neighbouring countries that are part of the Panel of Facilitators of the African Initiative to promote lasting peace and stability in the CAR and *calls on* them in this regard to step up their coordination and efforts for the next steps in the implementation of the Libreville roadmap;

6. *Welcomes* the first meeting of the International Support Group (ISG) to the CAR, co-chaired by the AU, the ECCAS and the United Nations, that took place in Bangui on 11 April 2018 to promote coherent and sustained engagement for the stabilization and recovery efforts in the CAR, and in this regard *calls for* the reactivation of joint bilateral commissions between Cameroon, Chad and Sudan with the CAR to address cross-border issues, including violence in transhumance corridors and transnational trafficking;

7. *Urges* all militias and armed groups throughout the country to lay down their arms, cease all forms of violence and destabilizing activities, including attacks against peacekeepers and humanitarian workers, incitement to hatred and violence and restrictions on freedom of movement of people, and release children from their ranks, immediately, permanently and unconditionally, and *urges* all political and institutional actors in the CAR to strongly condemn and counter such acts;

8. *Further demands* that all militias and armed groups engage constructively and in good faith in the peace process;

9. *Recalls* that individuals or entities that undermine peace and stability in the CAR could be listed for targeted measures pursuant to resolution 2399 (2018);

10. *Urges* the CAR Authorities to urgently implement a genuine and inclusive process to support reconciliation in the CAR, including by addressing marginalization of civilians from specific communities, issues of national identity, and local grievances of all the components of society over the whole territory of the CAR, including through national policies on economic development and civil service recruitment, and to promote reconciliation initiatives at the regional, national, prefectural and local levels, including through local elections;

11. *Recalls* the crucial role of civil society in the peace and reconciliation process and the need for the CAR Authorities to adequately promote its engagement in this process to ensure that the comprehensive political agreement addresses the root causes of the conflict and *further encourages* the full and effective participation of women in this process;

12. *Also calls upon* the CAR Authorities to ensure that national policies and legislative frameworks adequately protect the human rights of IDPs, including freedom of movement, and supports durable solutions for IDPs and refugee populations, including the voluntary, safe, dignified and sustainable return to one's home or local integration or resettlement;

13. *Underscores* the importance of respect for the Constitution to ensure the long-term stabilization and development of the CAR;

14. *Encourages* the submission by Member States of listing requests to the Committee established by paragraph 57 of resolution 2127 (2013), including detailed evidentiary support for each request, of individuals and entities engaging in or providing support for acts that undermine the peace, stability or security of the CAR, including acts that threaten or impede the political process, or the stabilization and reconciliation process, or that fuel violence;

15. *Calling on* international partners to assist the CAR Authorities in building the institutional and operational capacities of national police, gendarmerie and customs authorities to effectively monitor the borders and points of entry, including to support the implementation of the measures renewed and modified by paragraph 1 of resolution 2399 (2018) and the disarmament and repatriation of foreign members of armed groups;

16. *Recalls* the successful conduct of pre-DDR activities and Community Violence Reduction (CVR) programmes, *welcomes* the completion of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration pilot project with the integration of former elements of armed groups into the CAR armed forces, and *urges* the CAR Authorities to address the presence and activity of armed groups in the CAR by implementing a comprehensive strategy that prioritizes dialogue and the urgent implementation of an inclusive, gender-sensitive and effective DDR as well as repatriation (DDRR) in the case of foreign fighters, including children formerly associated with armed forces and groups, while respecting the need to fight against impunity, to be implemented in coherence with SSR which ensures civilian oversight of defence and national security forces, with the support of the international community;

17. *Calls on* the CAR Authorities to implement the National Security Policy and the National Strategy on SSR, including with the support of the international community, in order to put in place professional, ethnically representative, regionally balanced, taking into account the recruitment of women, and appropriately trained and equipped national defence and internal security forces, including through the adoption and implementation of appropriate vetting procedures of all defence and security personnel, including human rights vetting, as well as measures to absorb elements of armed groups meeting rigorous eligibility and vetting criteria, and *requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Council on progress taken in this regard as part of his regular reporting cycle;

18. *Recalls* the finalization, in coordination with MINUSCA and EUTM-RCA, of the 2017–2019 Guidance Document for the Redeployment of CAR armed forces, based on the National Defence Plan adopted in 2017, which establishes the conditions for the progressive redeployment of the FACA units trained by EUTM-RCA, in coordination with MINUSCA, EUTM-RCA and other relevant international partners, in order to contribute to the extension of State authority and security, *welcomes* the adoption by the CAR Ministries of Defence and the Interior in February 2018 of a joint five-year concept for the deployment of both defence and internal security forces in order to ensure complementarity between their deployments, and *further calls on* the CAR Authorities to ensure that redeployments of defence and internal security forces are sustainable, do not pose a risk to the stabilization of the country, civilians or the political process, and demonstrate the Government of the CAR oversight, command and control, and appropriate budgetary support and to develop a comprehensive national security strategy that is aligned with the peace process;

19. *Calls on* the CAR Authorities to take concrete steps, without delay and as a matter of priority, to strengthen justice institutions at national and local levels as part of the extension of State authority and to fight impunity, in order to contribute to stabilization and reconciliation, including, inter alia, by restoring administration of the judiciary, criminal justice and penitentiary systems throughout the country, by demilitarizing the prisons and gradually replace the FACA by recruiting and sustaining civilian prison personnel, by establishing transitional justice mechanisms, based on an victim-centered approach, to ensure accountability for past crimes and reparation for victims, and by ensuring access to fair and equal justice for all;

20. *Welcomes* in this regard the concrete steps toward the full operationalization of the Special Criminal Court (SCC), including the holding of its inaugural session on 22 October 2018 that officially launched its investigations, and the steps initiated to establish the Truth, Justice, Reparations and Reconciliation Commission, and *further encourages* the SCC to continue its investigations;

21. *Also calls on* the CAR Authorities to continue their efforts to restore the effective authority of the State over the whole territory of the CAR, including by redeploying State administration in the provinces, and ensuring the timely payment of salaries to civil servants and Security forces, with the objective of ensuring stable, accountable, inclusive and transparent governance;

22. *Encourages* the CAR Authorities, with the support of the international community, in particular with International Financial Institutions leading international efforts, and based on critical peace and State building goals, to continue consolidating public financial management and accountability, especially revenue collection, expenditure controls, public procurement and concession practices building on relevant international experiences and in a manner that allows it to meet the expenses related to the functioning of the State, implement early recovery plans, and revitalize the economy, and fosters national ownership and respects the sovereignty of the CAR;

23. *Further calls on* Member States, international and regional organizations to disburse pledges made at the international conference in Brussels (17 November 2016) as well as the African Solidarity Conference held in Addis Ababa (1 February 2017), in support of the implementation of the country's peacebuilding priorities as outlined in the CAR's National Strategy for Recovery and Peace consolidation (RCPCA) to provide support to the CAR Authorities for the reforms, for the restoration of the State authority over the whole territory, including contributions for the payment of salaries and other needs, in addition to support for the SSR and DDRR programmes and for the restoration of the judiciary and the criminal justice system including the SCC and, in that regard, *encourages* the CAR Authorities to accelerate the effective implementation of the RCPCA and relevant partners to support the efforts of the Government of the CAR through the RCPCA Secretariat to boost development projects and accelerate their delivery and implementation with a special emphasis on infrastructures that require heavy investments and a coordinated strategy to address the needs of the country in that regard;

24. *Takes note* of the development of a framework of mutual accountability between the CAR Authorities and international partners under the leadership of the Government of the CAR, with the aim of enhancing transparency and accountability as well as the coherence and sustained support of the CAR's international partners in support of agreed national priorities;

25. *Stresses* in this context the valuable role of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) in bringing strategic advice, providing observations for the Security Council's consideration, and fostering a more coherent, coordinated and integrated approach to international peacebuilding efforts, *recognizes* the active role of the Kingdom of Morocco, and *encourages* continued coordination with the PBC and other relevant international organizations and institutions in support of CAR's long term peace building needs;

Human rights, including child protection and sexual violence in conflict

26. *Reiterates* the urgent and imperative need to hold accountable all those responsible for violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights, irrespective of their status or political affiliation, *reiterates* that some of those acts may amount to crimes under the Rome Statute of the International

Criminal Court (ICC), to which the CAR is a State party, and *recalls* that committing acts of incitement to violence, in particular on an ethnic or religious basis, and then engaging in or providing support for acts that undermine the peace, stability or security of the CAR could be a basis for sanctions designations pursuant to resolution 2399 (2018);

27. *Recalls* the decision made by the Prosecutor of the ICC on 24 September 2014 to open, following the request of the national Authorities, an investigation into alleged crimes committed since 2012 and the ongoing cooperation of the CAR Authorities in this regard;

28. *Takes note* in this regard of the report of the Mapping Project describing serious violations and abuses of international human rights and violations of international humanitarian law committed within the territory of CAR between January 2003 and December 2015 and *further calls on* the CAR Authorities to follow-up on the recommendations;

29. *Urges* all parties to armed conflict in the CAR, including ex-Seleka and anti-Balaka elements, to end all violations and abuses committed against children, in violation of applicable international law, including those involving their recruitment and use, rape and sexual violence, killing and maiming, abductions and attacks on schools and hospitals and further calls upon the CAR Authorities to swiftly investigate alleged violations and abuses in order to hold those responsible accountable and to ensure that those responsible for such violations and abuses are excluded from the security sector;

30. *Reiterates* its demands that all parties protect and consider as victims those children who have been released or otherwise separated from armed forces and armed groups, and emphasizes the need to pay particular attention to the protection, release and reintegration of all children associated with armed forces and armed groups;

31. *Calls upon* all parties to armed conflict in the CAR, including ex-Seleka and anti-Balaka elements, to end sexual and gender-based violence, and further calls upon the CAR Authorities to swiftly investigate alleged abuses in order to hold those responsible accountable, and to develop a structured and comprehensive framework to address sexual violence in conflict, in line with resolutions 1960 (2010) and 2106 (2013), to ensure that those responsible for such crimes are excluded from the security sector and prosecuted, and to facilitate immediate access for victims of sexual violence to available services;

32. *Welcomes* the work achieved so far by the Mixed Unit for Rapid Intervention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children (UMIRR) to register and transfer cases of sexual violence to judicial authorities, *calls on* the CAR authorities and international partners to sustain adequate support to the UMIRR, and *further calls for* the swift prosecution of alleged perpetrators;

Peacekeeping Operation

33. *Renews* its strong support to SRSG Parfait Onanga-Anyanga;

34. *Decides* to extend the mandate of MINUSCA until 15 November 2019;

35. *Decides* that MINUSCA shall continue to comprise up to 11,650 military personnel, including 480 Military Observers and Military Staff Officers, and 2,080 police personnel, including 400 Individual Police Officers and 1,680 formed police unit personnel, as well as 108 corrections officers, *recalls* that the increase of 900 military personnel authorised by paragraph 32 of resolution 2387 (2017) aimed at increasing MINUSCA's flexibility and mobility to improve the efficient implementation of its full mandate and, in particular, the protection of civilians task

provided at paragraph 39 (a), and *further recalls* its intention to keep this number under continuous review;

36. *Decides* that MINUSCA's strategic objective is to support the creation of the political, security and institutional conditions conducive to the sustainable reduction of the presence of, and threat posed by, armed groups through a comprehensive approach and proactive and robust posture without prejudice to the basic principles of peacekeeping;

37. *Recalls* that MINUSCA's mandate should be implemented based on a prioritization of tasks established in paragraphs 39 to 41 of this resolution, and, when relevant, in a phased manner, and further requests the Secretary-General to reflect this prioritization in the deployment of the mission and to align budgetary resources according to the prioritization of mandate tasks as set out in this resolution, while ensuring appropriate resources for the implementation of the mandate;

38. *Authorises* MINUSCA to take all necessary means to carry out its mandate within its capabilities and areas of deployment;

39. *Decides* that the mandate of MINUSCA shall include the following priority tasks:

(a) Protection of civilians

(i) To protect, in line with S/PRST/2018/18 of 21 September 2018, without prejudice to the primary responsibility of the CAR Authorities and the basic principles of peacekeeping, the civilian population under threat of physical violence;

(ii) In support of the CAR Authorities, to take active steps to anticipate, deter and effectively respond to serious and credible threats to the civilian population through a comprehensive approach and, in this regard:

- to enhance its interaction with civilians, to strengthen its early warning mechanism, to increase its efforts to monitor and document violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights and to continue and strengthen local community engagement and empowerment;
- to maintain a proactive deployment and a mobile, flexible and robust posture, as well as by conducting active patrolling, in particular in high risks areas;
- to mitigate the risk to civilians before, during and after any military or police operation, including when in support of national security forces;
- to work with the CAR Authorities to identify and report threats to and attacks against civilians and implement existing prevention and response plans and strengthen civil-military cooperation, including joint planning;

(iii) To provide specific protection for women and children affected by armed conflict, including through the deployment of Child Protection Advisers, Women Protection Advisers and Gender Advisers;

(iv) To fully implement its new protection of civilians strategy adopted in April 2018 and to build on its work to develop a comprehensive protection of civilians strategy involving national authorities, the United Nations Country Team (UNCT), humanitarian and human rights organizations, and other relevant partners in coherence with its political strategy;

(b) Good offices and support to the peace process, including national reconciliation, social cohesion and transitional justice

(i) To reinforce its role in the peace process through its participation in the African Initiative and the participation of the SRSG to the Panel of Facilitators, including substantive and mediation support to the African Initiative within its ongoing technical, logistical and security support, and a stronger convening and coordinating role of international support to the African Initiative, including by promoting the ISG to the CAR as the international framework in support to the African Initiative;

(ii) To collaborate with the African Initiative to ensure that the Mission's political and security strategies promote a more coherent peace process that connects local and national peace efforts with the ongoing efforts to advance DDR, SSR, the fight against impunity, and the restoration of State authority while ensuring that the efforts of the African Initiative are informed by the political, security, human rights, humanitarian and protection developments;

(iii) To assist the CAR Authorities' efforts, at national and local levels, for an increased participation of political parties, civil society, women, youth, and where and when possible, IDPs and refugees to the peace process, in cooperation with the African Initiative;

(iv) To provide good offices and technical expertise in support of efforts to address the root causes of conflict, in particular to advance national reconciliation and local conflict resolution, and the preparation and conduct of an inclusive and transparent electoral process as a full part of the political process, working with relevant regional and local bodies and religious leaders, while ensuring the full and effective participation of women in line with the CAR action plan on Women, Peace and Security, and drawing upon integrated information and analysis from the United Nations system in-country;

(v) To support efforts of the CAR Authorities to address transitional justice as part of the peace and reconciliation process, and marginalization and local grievances, including through dialogue with the armed groups, civil society leaders including women and youth representatives, and the existing national, prefectoral and local authorities to foster confidence among communities;

(vi) To provide technical expertise to the Government of the CAR in its engagement with neighbouring countries, the ECCAS and the AU, in consultation and coordination with UNOCA, in particular through the assessment of opportunities to resolve issues of common and bilateral interest, in order to improve the anticipation and prevention of possible risks to regional stability;

(vii) To make more proactive use of strategic communications, including through the use of relevant communication tools, in particular Radio, to support its protection of civilians' strategy, in coordination with the CAR Authorities, to help the local population better understand the mandate of the Mission, its activities, and to build trust with the CAR citizens, parties to the conflict, regional and other international actors and partners on the ground.

(c) Facilitate the creation of a secure environment for the immediate, full, safe and unhindered delivery of humanitarian assistance

To improve coordination with humanitarian actors and to facilitate the creation of a secure environment for the immediate, full, safe and unhindered, civilian-led delivery of humanitarian assistance, in accordance with United Nations guiding

humanitarian principles and relevant provisions of international law, and for the voluntary safe, dignified and sustainable return or local integration or resettlement of internally displaced persons or refugees in close coordination with humanitarian actors;

(d) Protection of the United Nations

To protect the United Nations personnel, installations, equipment and goods and ensure the security and freedom of movement of United Nations and associated personnel;

40. *Further authorises* MINUSCA to pursue the following tasks of its mandate, bearing in mind that these tasks as well as those in paragraph 39 above are mutually reinforcing:

(a) Support for the extension of State authority, the deployment of security forces, and the preservation of territorial integrity

(i) To continue to support the Government of the CAR in implementing its strategy for the extension of State authority including by providing advice to the Government of the CAR on the establishment of interim security and administrative arrangements acceptable to the population and under Government of the CAR oversight, and through sequenced efforts based on identified priorities and targeted geographic areas, to articulate a division of labour with the UNCT and relevant partners in which MINUSCA would focus on immediate, short and medium-term priorities and hand over activities in long-term areas to relevant partners and to report to the Security council on benchmarks for tasks to be handed over to the UNCT and partners;

(ii) To support a gradual handover of security of key officials, and static guard duties of national institutions, to the CAR security forces, in coordination with the CAR Authorities, and based on the risks on the ground;

(iii) To promote and support the rapid extension of State authority over the entire territory of the CAR, including by supporting the deployment of vetted and trained national police and gendarmerie in priority areas, including through co-location, advising, mentoring and monitoring, in coordination with other partners, as part of the deployment of the territorial administration and other rule of law authorities, for increasing State presence in these priority areas outside of Bangui;

(iv) To provide enhanced planning and technical assistance to FACA units trained or certified by EUTM-RCA, and a limited number of vetted or trained ISF, engaged in joint operations with MINUSCA that include joint planning and tactical cooperation, in accordance with MINUSCA's mandate and the United Nations Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP), without exacerbating the risks to the stabilization of the country, civilians, the political process, to UN peacekeepers, or the impartiality of the Mission, to perform this task by reallocating approved resources, and to keep this planning and technical assistance under regular review in particular in the light of the benchmarks outlined in the Secretary-General's letter to the President of the Security Council of 15 May 2018 (S/2018/463);

(v) To provide limited logistical support for the progressive redeployment of a limited number of FACA units trained or certified by EUTM-RCA, and a limited number of vetted or trained ISF, engaged in joint operations with MINUSCA that include joint planning and tactical cooperation, in order to support the implementation of MINUSCA's current mandated tasks, including

to protect civilians, and to support national authorities in the restoration and maintenance of public safety and the rule of law, in accordance with MINUSCA's mandate and the United Nations Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP), without exacerbating the risks to the stabilization of the country, civilians, the political process, to UN peacekeepers, or the impartiality of the Mission, to perform this task by reallocating approved resources, and to review this limited logistical support in one year to ensure its compliance with the benchmarks outlined in the Secretary-General's letter to the President of the Security Council of 15 May 2018 (S/2018/463);

(b) Security Sector Reform (SSR)

(i) To provide strategic and technical advice to the CAR Authorities to implement the National Strategy on SSR, in close coordination with EUTM-RCA and other international partners, including France, the Russian Federation and the United States, and with the aim of ensuring coherence of the SSR process, including through a clear delineation of responsibilities of the FACA, the ISF and other uniformed entities, as well as the democratic control of both defence and internal security forces;

(ii) To continue to support the CAR Authorities in developing an approach to the vetting of defence and security elements (FACA, police and gendarmerie) which includes human rights vetting, in particular to promote accountability of violations of international and domestic law amongst security forces and in the context of any integration of demobilized armed groups elements into security sector institutions;

(iii) To take a leading role in supporting the CAR Authorities in implementing the National Capacity-Building and Development Plan for ISF, particularly command and control structures and oversight mechanisms, and coordinate international assistance in this regard;

(iv) To support the Government of the CAR in developing an incentive structure for training of police and gendarmerie and for the selection, recruitment, vetting and training of police and gendarmerie elements, with the support of donors and the United Nations Country Team (UNCT), taking into account the need to recruit women at all levels, and in full compliance with the United Nations HRDDP;

(v) To coordinate the provision of technical assistance and training between the international partners in the CAR, in particular with EUTM-RCA, in order to ensure a clear distribution of tasks in the field of SSR, for the benefit of both the FACA and the CAR ISF;

(c) Disarmament, Demobilization, Reintegration (DDR) and Repatriation (DDRR)

(i) To support the CAR Authorities in developing and implementing an inclusive and progressive programme for the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) and, in case of foreign elements, Repatriation (DDRR), of members of armed groups, based on the Principles of DDRR and Integration into the Uniformed Corps, signed at the Bangui Forum on 10 May 2015, while paying specific attention to the needs of children associated with armed forces and groups and the need to prevent rerecruitment, including through the implementation of the DDRR pilot project and the implementation of other DDRR projects, including gender-sensitive programmes, with the aim to disarm, demobilize and reintegrate as well as, in coordination with EUTM-RCA, the UNCT and other relevant partners, to integrate eligible and vetted armed groups

elements in security forces, as an incentive to armed groups to remain engaged in the political process and in preparation for the national DDR programme;

(ii) To support the CAR Authorities and relevant civil society organizations in developing and implementing CVR programmes, including gender-sensitive programmes, for members of armed groups including those non-eligible for participation in the national DDRR programme, in cooperation with development partners and together with communities of return in line with the priorities highlighted in the RCPCA;

(iii) To provide technical assistance to the CAR Authorities in developing and implementing a national plan for the integration of eligible demobilized members of armed groups into the security and defence forces, in line with the broader SSR agenda and the need to put in place professional, ethnically representative and regionally balanced national security and defence;

(d) Promotion and protection of human rights

(i) To monitor, help investigate, and timely report to the Security Council and publicly on violations of international humanitarian law and on violations and abuses of human rights committed throughout the CAR;

(ii) To monitor, help investigate and ensure reporting on violations and abuses committed against children and women, including rape and other forms of sexual violence in armed conflict, in connection with the UMIRR;

(iii) To assist the CAR Authorities in their efforts to protect and promote human rights and prevent violations and abuses and to strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations;

(e) Support for national and international justice, the fight against impunity, and the rule of law

(i) To help reinforce the independence of the judiciary, build the capacities, and enhance the effectiveness of the national judicial system as well as the effectiveness and the accountability of the penitentiary system;

(ii) To help build the capacities of the national human rights institution coordinating with the Independent Expert on human rights as appropriate;

Urgent temporary measures:

(iii) To urgently and actively adopt, within the limits of its capacities and areas of deployment, at the formal request of the CAR Authorities and in areas where national security forces are not present or operational, urgent temporary measures on an exceptional basis and without creating a precedent and without prejudice to the agreed principles of peacekeeping operations, which are limited in scope, time-bound and consistent with the objectives set out in paragraphs 39 and 40 (e), to arrest and detain in order to maintain basic law and order and fight impunity;

(iv) To pay particular attention, in implementing the urgent temporary measures in the conditions stated above, to those engaging in or providing support for acts that undermine the peace, stability or security of the CAR, including acts that threaten or impede the political process, or the stabilization and reconciliation process, or that fuel violence;

Special Criminal Court (SCC):

(v) To provide technical assistance to the CAR Authorities to identify, investigate and prosecute those responsible for crimes involving violations of

international humanitarian law and of violations and abuses of human rights committed throughout the CAR so that they can be brought to justice, and to help prevent such violations and abuses;

(vi) To provide support and to coordinate international assistance to the justice and correctional institutions to reinstate the criminal justice system, within the framework of the United Nations global focal point on rule of law, in a manner that emphasizes civilian oversight, impartiality and the protection of human rights;

(vii) To provide technical assistance to the CAR Authorities in partnership with other international partners, to support the operationalization of the SCC consistent with CAR laws and jurisdiction and in line with the CAR's international humanitarian law and international human rights law obligations, with the aim of supporting the extension of State authority;

(viii) To provide technical assistance, in partnership with other international partners, and capacity building for the CAR Authorities, in order to facilitate the functioning of the SCC, in particular in the areas of investigations, arrests, detention, criminal and forensic analysis, evidence collection and storage, recruitment and selection of personnel, court management, prosecution strategy and case development and the establishment of a legal aid system, as appropriate, as well as, to provide security for magistrates, including at the premises and proceedings of the SCC, and take measures for the protection of victims and witnesses, in line with the CAR's international human rights obligations, including with respect to fair trials, and due process;

(ix) To assist in the coordination and mobilization of bilateral and multilateral support to the operationalization and functioning of the SCC;

Rule of law:

(x) To provide support and to coordinate international assistance to build the capacities, and enhance the effectiveness of the criminal justice system as well as the effectiveness and the accountability of police and penitentiary system with the support of the UNCT;

(xi) Without prejudice to the primary responsibility of the CAR Authorities, to support the restoration and maintenance of public safety and the rule of law, including through apprehending and handing over to the CAR Authorities, consistent with international law, those in the country responsible for crimes involving serious human rights violations and abuses and serious violations of international humanitarian law, including sexual violence in conflict, so that they can be brought to justice, and through cooperation with States of the region as well as the ICC in cases of crimes falling within its jurisdiction following the decision made by the Prosecutor of the ICC on 24 September 2014 to open, following the request of national Authorities, an investigation into alleged crimes committed since 2012;

41. *Further authorises* MINUSCA to carry out the following additional tasks:

(a) To coordinate international assistance as appropriate;

(b) To assist the Committee established pursuant to paragraph 57 of resolution 2127 (2013) and the Panel of Experts established by the same resolution, including by passing information relevant to the implementation of the mandate of the Committee and Panel of Experts;

(c) To monitor the implementation of the measures renewed and modified by paragraph 1 of resolution 2399 (2018), in cooperation with the Panel of Experts

established pursuant to resolution 2127 (2013), including by inspecting, as it deems necessary and when appropriate without notice, all arms and related materiel regardless of location, and advise the Authorities on efforts to keep armed groups from exploiting natural resources;

(d) To support the Panel of Experts established pursuant to resolution 2127 (2013) in collecting information about acts of incitement to violence, in particular on an ethnic or religious basis, that undermine the peace, stability or security of the CAR in accordance with paragraph 32 (g) of resolution 2399 (2018);

(e) To ensure, with all relevant United Nations bodies, unhindered access and safety for the Panel of Experts established pursuant to resolution 2127 (2013), in particular to persons, documents and sites within their control in order for the Panel to execute its mandate;

(f) As appropriate, and taking into account the comparative advantage of other relevant partners, to contribute to support the CAR Authorities to develop and finalize a nationally owned strategy to tackle the illicit exploitation and trafficking networks of natural resources, which continue to fund and supply armed groups in the CAR, taking into account, where appropriate, the reports of the Panel of Experts established pursuant to resolution 2127 (2013) and the decisions of the Kimberley Process (KP), with the aim of extending the State authority over the entire territory and its resources;

(g) To provide transport for relevant State authorities in carrying out inspections and monitoring visits in key mining areas and sites as appropriate and on a case by case basis and when the situation allows, as a means to promote and support the rapid extension of the State authority over the entire territory;

Mission effectiveness

42. *Requests* the Secretary-General to deploy and allocate personnel and expertise within MINUSCA to reflect the priorities identified by paragraph 39 to paragraph 41 of this resolution, and to continuously adjust this deployment according to the progresses made in the implementation of this mandate;

43. *Encourages* MINUSCA to develop measurable targets by which to assess progress against the pursuit of the strategic objective defined in paragraph 36 of this resolution;

44. *Reiterates* the importance of current and future T/PCCs providing troops and police with adequate capabilities, equipment and predeployment training in order to enhance the capacity of MINUSCA to operate effectively and requests the Secretary-General to accelerate the recruitment of qualified staff, who have the competencies, education, work experience and language skills to adequately and effectively implement the tasks enumerated in paragraphs 39 to 41 above;

45. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all possible steps, including through the full use of existing authorities and at his discretion, to maximize MINUSCA's operational capacity and ability to discharge its mandate, with a specific focus on priority areas, over the entire territory of the CAR, including by using new rapidly deployable units, implementing a comprehensive performance management mechanism for contingents leadership, adjusting the number of bases and camps, and enhancing MINUSCA's personnel, mobility assets and capabilities for gathering timely, reliable and actionable information on threats to civilians and the analytical tools to use it, while continuing to strengthen the performance of the Mission and *recalls* in this regard its resolution 2436 (2018);

46. *Commends* the commitment of the T/PCCs in implementing the mission's mandate in a challenging environment, and in this connection, highlights that undeclared national caveats, lack of effective command and control, refusal to obey orders, failure to respond to attacks on civilians, and inadequate equipment may adversely affect the shared responsibility for effective mandate implementation and should not be accepted by the Secretary-General;

47. *Notes* the progress of all T/PCCs to meet UN standards and calls on them to immediately finalize the procurement and deployment of all required contingent-owned equipment, in order to comply with United Nations standards for troops and police;

48. *Takes note* of the independent investigation by Brigadier General Amoussou to improve MINUSCA's response to protect civilians and *encourages* MINUSCA to continue implementing its recommendations;

49. *Requests* the Secretary-General to implement a zero-tolerance policy on serious misconduct, sexual exploitation and abuse, sexual harassment, fraud, corruption, trafficking in natural resources or wildlife, including by making full use of the existing authority of the SRSG to ensure accountability of the Mission's staff and through effective mission support arrangement;

50. *Recalls* its Presidential Statement S/PRST/2015/22 and its resolution 2272 (2016) and requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to ensure full compliance of MINUSCA with the United Nations zero tolerance policy on sexual exploitation and abuse and to ensure that all personnel of the mission are vetted for history of sexual misconduct in the service with the United Nations and to keep the Council informed through his reports to the Council about the Mission's progress in this regard, including by reporting on the start, agreed deadlines and outcomes of 2272 reviews, and urges TCC/PCCs to take appropriate preventative action including predeployment awareness training, and to ensure full accountability in cases of such conduct involving their personnel;

51. *Calls on* the Secretariat to continue to explore, on the basis of need, the use of specialized police teams together with required specialized equipment, for police and gendarmerie capacity building and development and operational support;

52. *Requests* MINUSCA to ensure that any support provided to non-United Nations security forces is provided in strict compliance with the HRDDP, and requests the Secretary-General to include information on any such support in his reports to the Council;

53. *Emphasizes* the need for MINUSCA and EUTM-RCA, while carrying out their mandate, to act in full respect of the sovereignty, territorial integrity and unity of the CAR and in full compliance with applicable international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law and recalls the importance of training in this regard;

Environmental issues and natural resources

54. *Requests* MINUSCA to consider the environmental impacts of its operations when fulfilling its mandated tasks and, in this context, to manage them as appropriate and in accordance with applicable and relevant General Assembly resolutions and United Nations rules and regulations;

55. *Calls on* the CAR, its neighbouring States and other member States of the ICGLR to cooperate at the regional level to investigate and combat regional criminal networks and armed groups involved in the illegal exploitation and smuggling of natural resources including gold, diamonds and wildlife poaching and trafficking;

Child protection

56. *Requests* MINUSCA to take fully into account child protection as a cross-cutting issue throughout its mandate and to assist the CAR Authorities in ensuring that the protection of children's rights is taken into account, inter alia, in DDR and DDR/R processes and in SSR in order to end and prevent violations and abuses against children;

Gender

57. *Requests* MINUSCA to take fully into account gender mainstreaming as a cross-cutting issue throughout its mandate and to assist the CAR Authorities in ensuring the full and effective participation, involvement and representation of women in all spheres and at all levels, including in stabilization activities, transitional justice, the work of the SCC and of the Truth, Justice, Reparations and Reconciliation Commission, SSR, DDR and DDR/R processes, the preparation of the 2020/2021 elections, as well as in the national political dialogue process, through, inter alia, the provision of gender advisers, *further requests* enhanced reporting by MINUSCA to the Council on this issue, and *encourages* the UN Secretariat, in collaboration with Member States, to engage greater numbers of women in the military, police and civilian components of the mission with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with article 101, paragraph 3, of the United Nations Charter;

Weapon and ammunition management

58. *Requests* MINUSCA to actively seize, confiscate and destroy, as appropriate, weapons and ammunitions of armed groups, including all militias and other non-state armed groups, who refuse or fail to lay down their arms, and when they present an imminent threat to civilians or the stability of the state;

59. *Requests* MINUSCA to seize and collect arms and any related materiel the transfer of which to the CAR violates the measures imposed by paragraph 1 of resolution 2399 (2018) and to record and dispose of such arms and related materiel as appropriate;

60. *Requests* MINUSCA to provide technical assistance to the CAR Authorities in the operationalization of the national commission for Small Arms and Light Weapons to address civilian disarmament and the fight against the illicit proliferation of small arms and light weapons;

61. *Requests* MINUSCA to destroy, as appropriate, the weapons and ammunitions of disarmed combatants in keeping with its effort to seize and collect arms and related materiel the supply, sale or transfer of which violate the measures imposed by paragraph 1 of resolution 2399 (2018);

62. *Calls upon* the CAR Authorities and international partners and relevant United Nations entities, in coordination with MINUSCA, including UNMAS, to address the illicit transfer, destabilizing accumulation, and misuse of small arms and light weapons in the CAR, and to ensure the safe and effective management, storage and security of stockpiles of small arms and light weapons, and the collection and/or destruction of surplus, seized, unmarked, or illicitly held weapons and ammunition, and further stresses the importance of incorporating such elements into SSR and DDR/R programmes;

63. *Encourages* the CAR Authorities to implement the Central African Convention for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons, their Ammunition,

Parts and Components that can be used for their Manufacture, Repair or Assembly signed at Kinshasa on April 30 2010;

MINUSCA Freedom of movement

64. *Urges* all parties in the CAR to cooperate fully with the deployment and activities of MINUSCA, in particular by ensuring its safety, security and freedom of movement with unhindered and immediate access throughout the territory of the CAR to enable MINUSCA to carry out fully its mandate in a complex environment including by helping to ensure the full and effective implementation of, and compliance with, the host country agreement (SOFA) by the CAR Authorities;

65. *Calls upon* Member States, especially those in the region, to ensure the free, unhindered and expeditious movement to and from the CAR of all personnel, as well as equipment, provisions, supplies and other goods, including vehicles and spare parts, which are for the exclusive and official use of MINUSCA;

Humanitarian access

66. *Demands* that all parties allow and facilitate the full, safe, immediate and unhindered access for the timely delivery of humanitarian assistance to populations in need, in particular to internally displaced persons, throughout the territory of the CAR, in accordance with the United Nations guiding principles of humanitarian assistance and relevant provisions of international law;

67. *Further demands* that all parties ensure respect and protection of all medical personnel and humanitarian personnel exclusively engaged in medical duties, their means of transport and equipment, as well as hospitals and other medical facilities;

Humanitarian appeal

68. *Calls on* Member States and international and regional organizations to respond swiftly to the revised humanitarian appeal through increased contributions and to ensure that all pledges are honoured in full and in a timely manner;

Support to MINUSCA

69. *Authorises* French armed forces, within the provisions of their existing bilateral agreement with the CAR and the limits of their capacities and areas of deployment, at the request of the Secretary-General, to use all the means to provide operational support to elements of MINUSCA when under serious threat, from the date of adoption of this resolution, and requests France to ensure reporting to the Council on the implementation of this mandate and to coordinate its reporting with that of the Secretary-General referred to in paragraph 71 of this resolution;

Review and Reporting

70. *Requests* the Secretary-General to review on a regular basis the conditions required for the transition, drawdown and withdrawal of the United Nations operation, in a manner which does not prejudice overall efforts to support long term objectives for peace and stability, and looks forward to receiving this information as part of his regular reporting to the Security Council;

71. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the Council regularly informed of the situation in the CAR and the implementation of the mandate of MINUSCA, to report to the Council, on 15 February 2019, and then every four months from that date, and to include in his reports to the Council updates on and recommendations related to the dynamic implementation of MINUSCA's mandated tasks, including by

providing appropriate financial information, information on the security situation, the priority political elements as defined above on political progress, progress on mechanisms and capacity to advance governance and fiscal management, relevant information on the progress, promotion and protection of human rights and international humanitarian law, a review of the troop and police levels, force and police generation and deployment of all MINUSCA's constituent elements, information on the progress in the implementation of the measures taken to improve MINUSCA's performance, including measures to ensure force effectiveness as outlined in paragraphs 42 and 44 to 51;

72. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

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General Assembly
Security Council

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General Assembly
Tenth emergency special session
Agenda item 5
Illegal Israeli actions in Occupied East Jerusalem and the rest of the Occupied Palestinian Territory

Security Council
Seventy-third year

Identical letters dated 13 November 2018 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

I regret to inform you of the further deterioration of the situation in Occupied Palestine due to the violence and terror that continue to be perpetrated by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people under its belligerent, illegal occupation. I am writing to you today specifically to urgently draw the international community's attention to the dangerous situation unfolding in the besieged Gaza Strip, where once again the Palestinian civilian population is facing the terror and trauma of Israeli military aggression.

On 11 November 2018, an Israeli military so-called "undercover unit", using a civilian car and dressed as civilians, in violation of the principle of distinction, entered 3 km (2 miles) inside the Gaza Strip, invading east of Khan Younis city, in the southern Gaza Strip, and killing seven Palestinians. This attack has stoked high tensions and provoked yet another cycle of violence between the two sides that risks further escalation and destabilization, jeopardizing the lives of millions of innocent civilians.

Since yesterday, Israel, the occupying Power, has been carrying out a large-scale assault against civilian areas in the Gaza Strip. These air strikes constitute the most intense military raids and attacks since 2014. Six more Palestinians were killed as a result of the bombing of numerous civilian properties, including a hotel building and a television station building that were targeted and destroyed by the occupying forces. Tensions continue to rise dramatically as a result of such Israeli aggressions, and fear and panic are spreading among the Palestinian civilian population as the bombardment continues and the incitement and inflammatory rhetoric of Israeli government officials continue to escalate.

The extremely fragile situation in the Occupied State of Palestine, including East Jerusalem, risks further destabilization, with untold civilian and humanitarian consequences, if this Israeli aggression is not halted. We call upon the international community to send a clear message, in one unified voice, to demand an immediate

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de-escalation in order to prevent a full-blown conflagration and save innocent civilian lives.

We renew our call to the international community, specifically the Security Council, to act forthwith to uphold its obligations under the Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security. The Council is also duty-bound to act in accordance with its own resolutions, including resolution 2334 (2016) and the relevant provisions therein, as well in respect of the fundamental tenets of international law, including international humanitarian law as it pertains to the rights and protection of civilians in armed conflict, including foreign occupation.

We reiterate our urgent appeals for the protection of the Palestinian civilian population under Israel's occupation, including in the Gaza Strip, which is today yet again under siege and attack. The Palestinian people must be guaranteed protection and cannot remain the exception to the responsibility to protect civilians in situations of armed conflict from such devastating atrocities and flagrant breaches of the law.

The State of Palestine reaffirms its commitment to the rule of international law, including international humanitarian law, and its opposition to all actions that constitute violations of international law.

The present letter is in follow-up to our 650 previous letters regarding the ongoing crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, which constitutes the territory of the State of Palestine. These letters, dated from 29 September 2000 (A/55/432-S/2000/921) to 30 October 2018 (A/ES-10/799-S/2018/968), constitute a basic record of the crimes being committed by Israel, the occupying Power, against the Palestinian people since September 2000. For all of these war crimes, acts of State terrorism and systematic human rights violations being committed against the Palestinian people, Israel, the occupying Power, must be held accountable and the perpetrators must be brought to justice.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter distributed as a document of the tenth emergency special session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 5, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations